

ARAB TIMES

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Iran, Iraq hold direct peace talks at UN

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"Palestinians did not massacre

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SEOUL, Oct 2, (Reuters): Finals medals table after the 16th day of the Olympics (table under gold, silver, bronze):			
Soviet Union	53	31	46
East Germany	37	35	30
United States	36	31	27
South Korea	12	10	11
West Germany	11	14	15
Hungary	11	6	6
Bulgaria	10	12	13
Romania	7	11	6
France	6	4	6
Italy	6	4	4
China	5	11	12
Britain	5	10	9
Kenya	5	2	2
Japan	4	3	7
Australia	3	6	5
Czechoslovakia	3	4	5
Czechoslovakia	3	3	2
New Zealand	3	2	8
Canada	3	2	5
Poland	2	3	9
Norway	2	3	0
Netherlands	2	2	5
Denmark	2	1	1
Brazil	1	2	3
Finland	1	1	2
Spain	1	1	2
Turkey	1	1	0
Morocco	1	0	2
Austria	1	0	0
Portugal	1	0	0
Surinam	1	0	0
Sweden	0	4	7
Switzerland	0	2	2
Jamaica	0	2	0
Argentina	0	1	1
Chile	0	1	0
Costa Rica	0	1	0
Indonesia	0	1	0
Iran	0	1	0
N. Antilles	0	1	0
Peru	0	1	0
Senegal	0	1	0
US Virgin Islands	0	1	0
Belgium	0	0	2
Mexico	0	0	2
Colombia	0	0	1
Djibouti	0	0	1
Greece	0	0	1
Mongolia	0	0	1
Pakistan	0	0	1
Philippines	0	0	1

Europe studies joint Gulf mine

(Continued from Page 1)

are considering similar moves, the diplomats said.

They said the proposed joint action would allow the five nations to exit after ensuring that areas of the southern Gulf where they operate were totally mine-free.

The move would also be a signal of support for Arab countries bordering the Gulf and for UN efforts to end the war, the diplomats said.

Since June, the Dutch and Belgian minesweepers have operated with Britain's three vessels in the southern Gulf under joint British command. Italy and France have worked independently in the same region.

Court orders party-based ...

(Continued from Page 1)

government would follow the court's decision on the matter.

"If there is a democracy it cannot be without participation of political parties," Chief Justice Mohammad Haleem said during the court hearing today.

The decision was the second time Pakistani courts have snubbed the late President in the space of a few days.

Last week the Lahore High Court ruled that Zia had acted illegally in dismissing the National Assembly and the government of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in May.

The Assembly Speaker said the decision entitled him to recall the house and summoned members to meet today. But the move was dropped when the Supreme

Court announced the suspension of the Lahore court's ruling.

The Supreme Court was due to review the constitutional position and rule on the status of the dismissed assembly and government immediately after Benazir's case.

The ruling declared that an amendment of the Representation of the People Act carried out under martial law in 1985 was void as it failed to recognise the role of political parties in elections, thus violating the constitution.

Western and Pakistani analysts said that while Zia continued in power he would never have allowed the PPP to come to power.

But his death has thrown the political scene wide open and the PPP is one of the favourites to win the election, they added.

Bahrain agrees to join N-pacts

BAHRAIN, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Bahrain agreed in principle today to sign the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and international pacts banning the use of chemical and biological weapons.

A statement read over state television said the decision was taken at the weekly cabinet meeting in view of the fact that most other countries subscribed to the agreements.

Kinnock gets mandate

BLACKPOOL, England, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Britain's opposition Labour Party gave Neil Kinnock a new mandate as leader today in a landslide vote and he vowed to build on his strengthened authority to gain power in the next general election.

Botha and Mobutu discuss release of Mandela

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 2, (Reuters): The release of jailed black leader Nelson Mandela was one of the key issues at talks between South African President P.W. Botha and Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, according to a joint communiqué issued in Johannesburg.

The communiqué issued here after the South African leader's return from Zaire today said: "President Botha's flexible approach on the release of Nelson Mandela was a source of encouragement to President Mobutu."

Reprieve

It also said a reprieve for the "Sharpeville Six" — five men and a woman sentenced to death for their part in a mob killing in 1984 — also featured in yesterday's summit at Mobutu's country residence of Gbadolite, in northern Zaire.

The communiqué, issued by the South African Press Association, said the release of Mandela and clemency for the Sharpeville Six were among the four main issues discussed by Botha and Mobutu.

Botha said, however, that a reprieve from the gallows for the Sharpeville Six could only be considered once legal procedures in South Africa had run their course.

The death sentences handed down to the six unleashed a storm of protest from Western nations who have exerted strong diplomatic pressure for Botha to grant them clemency.

The other main topics discussed at the summit were a strategy for ending the 13-year-old Angolan civil war, the long-delayed independence of South Africa-ruled Namibia and other unspecified developments in central and southern Africa.

It was the first indication that Mandela's release has featured in an intensive diplomatic effort by South Africa to secure a breakthrough in relations with black Africa, which for decades has shunned Pretoria because of its apartheid race policies.

"Africa is talking to South Africa," Botha told local journalists who accompanied his party on the return flight from Zaire.

On the possible release of Mandela, the South African President said he had undertaken to consider freeing the black nationalist leader in response to a request from Mobutu.

South African officials said that leaders of Angola, Congo, Gabon, Zaire and Zambia would meet in the Zambian capital of Lusaka next Thursday and Friday.

The Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Mali — the current President of the Organisation of African Unity — would be observers.

Meeting

Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouët-Boigny is also trying to arrange a meeting between Botha, Angola's Jose Eduardo dos Santos and other African leaders to discuss Angola, diplomats said.

As Botha visited Zaire, Dos Santos was holding talks on an Angola peace plan in Franceville, Gabon, with Gabonese President Omar Boongo and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of Congo.

Dukakis raps Bush on drugs stance

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Democratic presidential contender Michael Dukakis has ridiculed the anti-drug stance of Republican rival George Bush, pointing to allegations the Reagan administration helped direct money to Panama's military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Dukakis asked at an outdoor campaign rally for the Nov 8 election held in San Francisco yesterday: "How the American people can possibly take him seriously when he talks about a war on drugs and can't say no to a drug-running Panamanian dictator?"

Noriega has been indicted by two US grand juries on drug trafficking and racketeering charges that accuse him of selling protection to Colombian drug barons.

Dropped

Former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) director Stanfield Turner has said he dropped Noriega from the secret payroll during the administration of President Jimmy Carter and soon after succeeding Bush as CIA director in 1977.

Strauss undergoes surgery after heart attack

MUNICH, West Germany, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Bavaria's State Premier Franz Josef Strauss underwent surgery after a heart attack and was in stable condition today, a government spokesman said.

Strauss, 73, one of West Germany's most senior and influential public figures, collapsed yesterday while on a hunting trip in woods near Regensburg, about 100 km (60 miles) north of Munich.

Worse

The spokesman said Strauss was taken by helicopter to a Regensburg hospital where he underwent surgery on his stomach. Doctors thought a stomach ailment could have triggered the heart seizure but they found nothing.

"His condition this morning has stabilised," the spokesman said. He gave no further details.

Bavarian Radio quoted

He said the Reagan administration — in which Bush was Vice-President — redirected US funds to Noriega in 1981.

Turner was widely reported on Friday to have said Bush intervened personally to restore Noriega to the payroll. Bush spokesman Steve Hart said yesterday that "it is patently false. It's absolutely untrue."

The New York Times in its today's edition quoted Turner as denying saying Bush personally intervened. Turner told the Times the CIA resumed payments to Noriega after the accession of the Reagan administration but he knew of no involvement by Bush in the decision.

Bush, who headed Reagan's anti-drug drive, and Dukakis have both made campaign promises to stem the flow of illegal drugs entering the United States.

"Maybe in the next debate we'll get a few straight answers out of Mr Bush about just what the relationship of his administration with General Noriega really was," said Dukakis.

Hirohito's bleeding goes on but latest crisis over

TOKYO, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Emperor Hirohito is still suffering from internal bleeding but a heavy loss of blood and a sharp drop in blood pressure yesterday afternoon.

But a series of transfusions apparently alleviated the crisis and the emperor's vital signs were reported by palace officials as returning almost to normal although his pulse rate and blood pressure continued to fluctuate.

Hirohito was given a tiny amount of food yesterday, the first since he fell ill on Sept. 19, and he has been given a total of 4.8 litres (about 10 pints) of blood, almost equal to his body's normal entire blood supply.

Sitwell dies

LONDON, Oct. 2, (UPI): Sir Sacheverell Sitwell, the last of Britain's remarkable sibling literary trio who rose to fame in the 1920s, has died at his home. He was 90.

Sitwell, who died yesterday, produced 50 volumes of verse and 43 other books on travel, music and architecture since he began publishing in the late teens.

Bombs injure 3 Israeli girls

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Two bombs hidden among loaves of bread exploded within minutes of each other, wounding three Israeli girls shopping on the eve of a Jewish festival in Jerusalem today.

Police blamed Palestinians for the attacks, apparently the first bombing campaign against Jewish civilians in Jerusalem since the start of an Arab uprising against Israeli occupation nearly 10 months ago.

Amid continuing unrest by Palestinian youths throwing stones and bottles in Arab East Jerusalem, Jewish settlers blocked the main highway from Beersheba to Hebron in the occupied West Bank to protest against what they called deteriorating road safety.

Closure

Troops went on alert in anticipation of widespread violence during a general strike called for tomorrow by underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising to protest at Israel's closure of schools and universities in the occupied territories.

An Arab worker in a Jewish quarter store in the walled Old City spotted the first bomb. The shopowner's son, a soldier, removed the device, inside a plastic bag, and smothered its detonation to prevent injuries.

Three girls, aged 13, seven and five, were wounded by shrapnel and flying glass five minutes later when the second bomb exploded in a grocery shop on the edge of the religious Mea Shearim district.

Police said the devices were identical home-made pipe bombs, stuffed with explosives.

Sporadic unrest flared in several areas of East Jerusalem, annexed after Israel captured the area from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war.

Hurled

A Jew was hit by a bottle hurled by Palestinians on the Via Dolorosa, a Christian tourist site in the Old City, and police fired tear gas to disperse stone-throwers in the Silwan area, police spokesman Rafi Levy said.

Israeli authorities have tried to prevent violence gripping the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, from stabbing Jews in Jerusalem, regarded as a showcase of Israeli rule and a major tourist attraction.

But violent incidents in the city have multiplied since a Palestinian protester was killed by a tear-gas grenade during an clash with paramilitary border police in the suburban village of Jebel Mukaber last Monday.

In the southern West Bank, nearly 100 members of the Jewish settlement of Beit Hagai protesting over increasing attacks on their cars by Arab stone-throwers blocked the Beersheba-Hebron highway for nearly two hours before troops removed them, Israeli Radio said.

Smoking ban

LONDON, Oct. 2, (Reuters): British Airways announced today that smoking would be banned on domestic flights from Oct. 30.

The decision by the BA board was taken after market research and a trial ban on the London-Glasgow route showed strong support from passengers.

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Come to flavor



UK refuses asylum to brother of Vanunu

LONDON, Oct 2, (Reuters): The brother of Mordechai Vanunu, the Israeli nuclear technician jailed for 18 years for divulging details of the country's nuclear capability, has been refused political asylum in Britain, a government source said.

Meir Vanunu, who applied for asylum on the grounds that he faced persecution in Israel, has been ordered by the Home Office to leave Britain by Oct 25, the source said.

If Meir returns to Israel he faces up to 15 years imprisonment for making statements about his brother's alleged abduction from London to Israel by members of the Israeli secret service, Mossad.

"The Home Office turned his application down this September on the grounds that he faced prosecution but not persecution," the source said.

Meir told The Sunday Times that while Mordechai was in London providing the newspaper with details about his work at Israel's top-secret Dimona nuclear reactor, he was lured to Rome by a female Mossad agent.

He told the newspaper his brother was then drugged and smuggled back to Israel on a ship to stand trial.

Information

Meir says he obtained the information when he visited Mordechai in prison. Because the information is classified as a state secret in Israel, Meir faces charges of espionage for breaking a written undertaking that he would reveal nothing of what his brother told him.

A week after details of the alleged abduction appeared in The Sunday Times in August last year, an Israeli court issued a warrant for Meir's arrest. He then applied for political asylum in Britain.

Mordechai Vanunu, 34, worked at the Dimona facility in the Negev Desert for nine years before telling The Sunday Times in September 1986 that the Jewish state had produced up to 200 atomic bombs in 20 years.

His trial last March was held behind closed doors subject to military censorship.



An angry Burmese demonstrator shouts slogans against Rangoon leaders in front of Burmese embassy in Bangkok. (Reuters wirephoto)

Striking Burmese warned of 'action'

BANGKOK, Oct 2, (Reuters): Burma's military rulers issued a series of threats to strikers today in an effort to get the sullen population back to work.

The state radio warned that "effective action" would be taken against activists trying to prolong strikes beyond a Monday back-to-work deadline set by the authoritarian government.

"Some public servants, through their unions, are reported to be exhorting good public servants not to return to their workplaces and go on strike," the Army-run radio said.

"Authorities warn that effective action will be taken against anyone obstructing, blocking and threatening public servants from returning to work."

Earlier the military said civil servants and workers in state enterprises who failed to obey the deadline would lose their jobs.

The radio also broadcast a law requiring registration of all political organisations and set five-year jail terms for members of any group that encouraged "the undermining or stopping the operation of state administrative machinery."

A main opposition party, the National League for Democracy, backs strikes to

force the holding of fair elections. Diplomats said strikes were the last effective weapon of peaceful protest available to the opposition.

After seizing power on Sept 18, the military set Monday as the last day it would tolerate strikes that began in early August during an uprising against a quarter-century of single-party rule.

The opposition viewed the takeover as a false coup by officers loyal to veteran ruler Ne Win who want to preserve military domination of the country.

Diplomats in Rangoon said fear that the Army will kill or harshly punish civilians who defy its edicts meant that about half of the urban labour force were at their workplaces by the weekend.

Rangoon residents interviewed by telephone said many workers showed up only to try to collect their pay — and little work was being done.

They said students continued furtively to paste up posters in the capital exhorting citizens to stay away from work or remain idle if they did go back.

"If you are caught putting up a poster, you are shot dead. I have seen it," one Western visitor to the city said.

Ex-ministers readmitted to Rajiv's party

NEW DELHI, Oct 2, (Reuters): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has readmitted into the ruling Congress (I) Party two former ministers in his mother's government, ahead of next year's national elections, a party spokesman said today.

Pranab Mukherjee, Finance Minister in Indira Gandhi's government, was suspended from the party in 1986 after he criticised it in a magazine interview.

Former state Chief Minister M. Chenna Reddy left the party in 1984 after differences with Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated that year.

The party spokesman said the two were readmitted after they wrote to Rajiv Gandhi saying it was time for all congressmen to reunite.

Parliamentary elections are due in December next year and in recent weeks Rajiv has thrown open the party to former members who had either resigned or been suspended from the party.

Party sources said Mukherjee and others had been readmitted to strengthen the party at state level.

All were regarded as members of the old guard who lost influence after Rajiv Gandhi came to power and brought in younger politicians to lead the party.

Kidnappers show goodwill

Beirut hostage to be freed soon

BEIRUT, Oct 2, (Reuters): Pro-Iranian kidnappers holding three Americans and an Indian hostage in Lebanon have said they would free one of their captives as a gesture of goodwill.

"We will release one of the hostages. It is a difficult decision for us, but we will prove our goodwill and our seriousness in this matter," said a handwritten statement in Arabic issued by the "Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine."

The undated statement, delivered to an international news agency in Beirut last night, did not name the hostage it intends to free and did not specify the date of his release.

Photograph

However, the statement called upon the families of the hostages "to come to Lebanon to join in the ceremony for releasing the hostages."

The group has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping last year of three American University professors Alann Steen, Jesse Turner and Robert Polhill, along with Mithileshwar Singh, a naturalised American of Indian origin.

The statement was accompanied by a black and white photograph of Turner, 39, and Steen, 48, looking healthy but barely smiling. Wearing dark shirts and trousers, they held each other by the shoulder and had a cigarette in their hands.

The four professors were seized from the campus of the Beirut university college by gunmen disguised as police on Jan 24, 1987.

Muslim security sources in Beirut said yesterday that British hostages Terry Waite, John McCarthy and Brian Keenan, also held in Beirut, were expected to be freed after Britain and Iran agreed to resume full diplomatic relations.

The Islamic Jihad last month issued three statements demanding a positive US reaction to its call for recognition of Palestinian rights.

US reaction

The United States reaffirmed its support of Palestinian rights last month following the Islamic Jihad statements, but the group on Saturday attacked Washington for being deceitful.

"The American administra-

tion has voiced some reactions which did not include any mentionable positive steps... but we wanted to expose to the world its lies and pretensions of democracy and defence of human rights with regards to our oppressed people," the statement said.

The group has in the past demanded the release of 400 Arab prisoners held in Israeli jails in return for the four hostages.

Concessions

On Friday, President Reagan denied a report in an Israeli newspaper that Washington had made a deal with Tehran to free US hostages in the Middle East, although a Reagan aide said others might be negotiating for their freedom.

The newspaper said the deal was for the release of eight Americans and Waite.

The American and British hostages, among 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon, are thought to be held by pro-Iranian militant groups seeking political concessions from the United States and Western countries.

Gorbachev poised to become first executive President

MOSCOW, Oct 2, (Reuters): By securing his election to the largely ceremonial post of Soviet head of state, Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has smoothed the way to assume the full powers of executive President when constitutional changes are made next April.

Although as party chief he would have been proposed automatically for the post when it is given added powers, Gorbachev will now need only an endorsing vote to confirm him in office and consolidate his impregnability.

"I want first of all to express my gratitude for the tremendous trust you have placed in me... I clearly understand the full extent of the responsibility placed upon me..." he said in his acceptance speech yesterday.

Success

The formal phrases of the speech to a specially-convened session of the Supreme Soviet underlined the success of two days of political manoeuvring which increased his personal authority and boosted his "perestroika" drive to reform Soviet society.

As well as becoming head of state in succession to Andrei Gromyko, the Kremlin chief deftly reshuffled the top ranks of the Communist Party, prompting supporters of change and shunting out of key posts more conservative figures.

Israel builds up Lebanese militia, cuts back its forces

BINT JAIL, Lebanon, Oct 2, (AP): "Living in a dangerous area until the end of time."

The line, scrawled by a disgruntled Israeli soldier on a wall in southern Lebanon, reflects the frustration Israelis often express about their prolonged entanglement in Lebanon.

But hopes for a change have been raised by the relative calm that has settled in south Lebanon in recent months.

Israeli newspapers have reported Israel's standing force in south Lebanon has been reduced, and Army commanders hint more cuts could be made in the future.

They attribute the improvement to a reorganised and better trained South Lebanon Army (SLA), a 2,000-member force of Lebanese militiamen commanded by a Christian ex-Army general.

But the quiet is tenuous, and diplomatic observers say it is

mostly the byproduct of an increasingly bloody power struggle between moderate and Iranian-backed Shiite Muslims.

Lt. Col. Shraga Kurz, an Israeli liaison officer, spoke glowingly of the SLA's performance in recent battles with Iranian-backed Hezbollah fighters.

"We are reducing Israeli units to the degree that the SLA can take control of the area. You find less and less Israeli soldiers," he said.

SLA commander Antoine Lahad, 61, who studied at the Ecole de Guerre in France and in the United States at Fort Benning, Georgia, claimed Hezbollah was losing influence as his force was building.

"The strength of Hezbollah is not something of its own but imported from Iran. Iran's failure to win the war with Iraq has resulted in a weakening of morale of the Hezbollah forces in Lebanon," he said.

The SLA underwent a similar collapse in 1985 after Israel withdrew the bulk of its troops from Lebanon in the face of an increasingly violent Shiite guerrilla campaign. Hezbollah overran seven SLA positions, capturing men and weapons.

But since March 1986, the SLA has not lost a single position despite 38 attacks which have left 160 SLA men dead and 550 wounded.

Lahad said the number of attacks on his forces had fallen from 90 to about 15 a month on average, and Hezbollah guerrillas were no longer launching frontal assaults against SLA positions.

His predominantly Christian force has also had success in recruiting Shiites, who make up about 22 per cent of the fighters. In the last induction, Lahad said 80 of 170 recruits were Shiite and reporters were later introduced to a Shiite officer named Fuaz.

Jordan delays parliamentary elections

AMMAN, Oct 2, (Reuters): Jordan's King Hussein postponed parliamentary elections today until electoral laws are revised following the break with the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the state-run news agency Petra said.

It said a royal decree postponed elections for the lower house of parliament, dissolved a day before the king severed legal and administrative ties with the West Bank on July 31.

Half the 60 seats in the former house, elected in 1967, were held by West Bank deputies.

An official spokesman told Petra elections would be held after the government had completed amendments to the 1986 electoral law to take account of the West Bank decision.

The royally-appointed upper house, or senate, remains in being, but cannot legislate without the lower house.

Three appointments since the break with the West Bank have weakened the Palestinian element in the 30-member senate, traditionally half West Bank and half East Bank.

In another development, Jordan signed a new agreement today with a US firm that has conducted cloud seeding programmes to boost the kingdom's rainfall for the past two years.

Azerbaijanis forced to flee disputed Armenian enclave

MOSCOW, Oct 2, (UPI): Nearly 1,000 Azerbaijanis have been forced to flee the disputed Armenian enclave of Nagorno Karabakh while Armenians residing in Azerbaijani city of Agdam are under special military protection to prevent violence, Pravda said today.

Azerbaijani villages in the disputed region are suffering severe food shortages and military convoys are necessary to provide essential supplies, the Communist Party newspaper said in a dispatch from the Azerbaijan capital of Baku.

Armenian nationalists living in the Nagorno Karabakh territory of Muslim-dominated Azerbaijan have been agitating since February to be break free from Azerbaijan rule and be incorporated into neighbouring Armenia.

Guard

At least 33 people have died and 250 were injured in religious and ethnic clashes in Azerbaijan since violence first erupted in February. In September, renewed clashes resulted in the imposition of a curfew in the disputed region.

Although its population of

165,000 is 80 per cent Armenian, Nagorno Karabakh has been ruled by Azerbaijan since 1923.

"There are 48 houses of Armenians in Agdam," a militia official told Pravda. "All of them are under special guard so that not a single person suffered and no material damage was inflicted on the families."

At the same time, Azerbaijani families living in Nagorno Karabakh have fled to safety in Agdam, an administrative centre of Azerbaijan.

"We have temporarily accommodated 177 families, or almost 1,000 people, in the district territory, a Communist Party official said.

"The fact that some Azerbaijani villages in Nagorno Karabakh territory are not provided with foodstuffs is creating additional difficulties," he said. "We have to send caravans with foodstuffs, heavily guarded by troops."

Agdam's central square has been sealed off by troops in armoured personnel carriers, Pravda said. "Trunks of cars and passes of people entering the district are thoroughly checked," it said.

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This man can single-handedly make your family's fortune grow.



Amir addresses cabinet members

KUWAIT, Oct. 2, (KUNA): HH the Amir chaired a cabinet meeting today after his return yesterday from New York, where he delivered his historic address at the 43rd session of the UN General Assembly, the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rasheed said.

The Amir briefed the council on the talks he held with French President Francois Mitterrand during his stay in Paris. The Amir also discussed his meetings with US President Ronald Reagan and senior government officials of the two countries. The Amir also outlined discussions with the UN secretary-general and a number of Arab and Islamic foreign ministers. The talks centred on issues of the Islamic and Arab nations and also those of the Third World.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah expressed the council's deep gratitude and appreciation for the important and positive role played by the Amir. Sheikh Saad also expressed his utmost satisfaction over the good reac-

tions to the Amir's role in the international, Islamic and Arab fronts.

The meeting then moved to the main offices of the cabinet, where Sheikh Saad reviewed the international responses to the Amir's UN address. During his UN speech, the Amir urged world leaders to direct their attention to the pain and suffering of less developed nations.

The Amir urged creditor countries to cancel all interest on debts owed by the Third World. He expressed Kuwait's readiness to fully comply with any decisions endorsed by the gathering. He also urged the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to reconsider their conditions and to establish a humane economic system which looks after the welfare of the poor countries.

The Amir's address also centred on a number of international, Islamic and Arab causes, topped by the Palestinian dilemma, the Iraqi-Iranian negotiations, the crisis in Lebanon and Afghanistan and other struggles of the Third

World people.

The council affirmed that such a pioneer step greatly and effectively confronts the problems threatening the Arab and Islamic nations. The council also expressed pride over the historic role which the Amir is keen to maintain.

The cabinet then discussed a message to the Amir on bilateral relations from Benin's President.

Briefed
During the cabinet session, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed discussed his visit to Doha, at the invitation of Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz.

Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa also spoke to the ministers on the talks he had with his Iraqi counterpart, Essam Abdel Rahim, who visited Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour.

The council was also briefed by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed on the outcome of the seminar on labour statistics held recently in Baghdad.

Housing planners face challenge of land shortage

By Jadranka Porter

KUWAIT is studying ways to make better use of its limited land, a problem which poses a major challenge to the country's housing planners, according to Kuwait Minister of State for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan.

Al Roudhan was speaking on behalf of Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah last Saturday at a ceremony marking the Arab Housing Day and the beginning of the Housing Week in Kuwait.

The Housing Week, patronised by Sheikh Saad, is organised to draw the public's attention to the government's efforts to provide adequate housing for its nationals. Adequate housing contributes to the feeling of stability in the country, Roudhan said.

One way to make optimal use of the land available for housing projects is to build high-rise apartment blocks, he said. But he stressed that these should be designed to conform with local patterns of family life.

In the past, the Kuwaitis showed a definite preference for houses rather than flats.

Al Roudhan praised the contribution of the private sector to the government housing



Minister of State for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan delivers a speech to mark the beginning of the Housing Week in Kuwait.

projects. He singled out the Al Qurain housing projects as an example of government's concern to provide better quality housing to its nationals.

The ceremony was attended by ministers of Public Works, Education, Commerce and Industry and the director-general of the National Housing Authority. Several former employees of the National Housing Authority were honoured for their efforts to upgrade residential projects in Kuwait.

Hundreds attracted by bogus notice of Brunei jobs

DUBAI, Oct. 2, (AP): A bogus notice about vastly exaggerated employment opportunities for construction workers in Brunei being circulated in a number of Gulf countries, including the United Arab Emirates.

The Arab Times reported in August that a similar notice was being circulated in Kuwait and that the British embassy dismissed it as a scam.

Hoax
Doha's English language daily, Gulf News, reported today that hundreds of UAE nationals have fallen prey to the notice and were crowding the British embassy in Dubai for applications.

British embassies in the Gulf run interest sections of Brunei, an oil-producing country which hit the news lately with a report that its ruler, Sultan Haji Hassan Bolkiah, was the richest man in the world.

Arab summit may be held

KUWAIT, Oct. 2, (KUNA): Intensive secret Arab contacts are under way in New York about holding an Arab summit in Riyadh next month.

The daily Al Qabas said in a report published today that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal is meeting with Arab foreign ministers at the United Nations to determine the Arab stance towards the summit.

The paper quoted Arab sources as saying that Saudi Arabia is trying to co-ordinate the Arab stance on the current Lebanese crisis, which according to the sources, is the only obstacle facing the convocation of the summit.

But British embassy officials say they have not been able to figure out the purpose of the hoax. The notice makes no demand for money but the address on the typewritten and photocopied notice does not exist.

Andrew Balfour, vice-consul at the consulate said: "The embassy's telephones are choked and large groups of workers come to us asking for applications forms which do not exist."

The notice claims that the announcement "was made by" a British embassy, without saying where. It claimed there were 70,000 to 100,000 vacancies for construction workers at a minimum yearly salary of \$20,000.

The British Foreign Office, after consultations with the government of Brunei, has notified all its embassies in central Asian countries to "advise any applicant that there is no truth in the alleged employment opportunity, nor that it was announced by any British embassy."

Contract signed

MINISTER of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti today signed a contract with one of the local companies to build and maintain the compound of the money exchangers, Amir's Market and Carpet Market.

The duration of the contract, which cost KD 1,340,000 is 500 days.

The project includes new shops, a traditional cafe, electricity station, water supplies, entrances, umbrellas and maintaining and renewing the old shops in the market.

Committee urges government to cut public spending

KUWAIT, Oct. 2, (KUNA): A special committee has urged the government to cut public spending, but recommended that more funds be earmarked for defence, security and education.

The Economic Committee of the Supreme Council of Planning called on the government to create more jobs for Kuwaitis outside the public sector and to evaluate the performance of recently privatised firms.

The committee's recommendations, listed in a lengthy report, were disclosed to KUNA Sunday by the director-general of the Supreme Council of Planning Fuad Mulla Hussein.

The committee's report was a study of the country's draft general budget for fiscal 1988-89 which was endorsed by the Supreme Council of Planning last month.

According to Mulla Hussein, the report showed that the 1988-89 draft budget conforms with the country's five-year plan, marked by stable public spend-

ing. What is incongruous, however, is the high rate of foreign labour in Kuwait despite the government's efforts to increase the involvement of Kuwaitis in the work force, the report disclosed.

The report, recommended a revision of the way the draft budget is prepared. The allocations of government agencies and those of affiliated and independent institutions are now separated.

The separation makes it difficult to gauge the impact that both spending and revenues have on the overall economic variables and their conformity with the goals of the five-year plan, according to the report.

Define
The report also said the finance minister's statement on the general budget should clearly define the government's role in preserving economic stability through establishment or owning assets of local companies.

Another area which should be clearly stated in the draft budget is government subsidies, the rationale behind them and the amount that will go to the production and consumption sectors.

The report urged the government to rethink its employment policies and make wages commensurate with productivity and to create incentives for more Kuwaitis to join the private sector.

The government was also asked to give priority in investment spending to infrastructure utilities and their maintenance.

The Economic Committee's report also recommended that the government draw up a timetable for curbing the country's budget deficit which is being financed by public debt instruments.

The impact of the debt instruments on the financial and monetary policies should also be examined according to the report.



Nigerian Ambassador, Mustafa Saleh and his wife receive US Ambassador to Kuwait, Nathaniel Howell (right) at a reception on Saturday at the Kuwait Holiday Inn to mark Nigeria's National Day.

Kuwait begins celebrations to mark Arab Child Day

KUWAIT, Oct. 2, (KUNA): Kuwait's first Arab Child Day set for Thursday.

The third session of the Arab Social Affairs Ministerial Council in December 1982 declared Oct 7 the Arab Child Day.

The Arab ministers set the date as a means to follow-up on improvements in medical, cultural, social and psychological care for Arab children.

The ministers also ratified the Arab Children's Rights Convention which included the principles of non-discrimination among Arab children, and providing freedom and integrity for each child.

The principles underlined that the Arab child should enjoy social and medical security as well as care, shelter and nourishment before and after birth.

Promote
Arab children are also entitled to love and growth under the guardianship of their parents, and access to free compulsory education at least during the elementary stage.

Children deserve precedence in getting relief in case of catastrophes and protection against brutality and job discrimination, according to the principles.

Starting 1982, Save Arab Child organisations were formed at both Pan Arab and national levels.

The most prominent is the Arab Childhood Council established in 1987, in response to a resolution by the First Arab Childhood Conference in Tunis in November 1986.

The Arab Childhood Council is chaired by Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz who is the head of the Arabian Gulf Programme for supporting UN organisations.

The council was formed to promote awareness of childhood problems, and to respond to urgent cases whereby Arab children suffer due to catastrophes or war. The council also wants to establish a system for compiling information and statistical data on Arab childhood.

The council has made some progress. It approved the Egyptian capital as its seat and established a Children Information Centre, an international Arab childhood library in Cairo and a research centre in the Jordanian capital Amman.

Mortality
However, there is still a need to face long ignored childhood problems.

Mortality rates of Arab children are still high compared to those in developed countries. The UNICEF statistics stress that the Arab infant mortality rate in 1985 was up to 96 per 1,000 against 12 per 1,000 in North America and 11 per 1,000 in Western Europe.

However, infant and non-infant mortality rates, as estimated by Tunisian Premier Rashid Sfar at the First Childhood and Development Conference was 185 and 44 per thousand while the same does not exceed 10 in developed countries.

The UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa reiterated that at least 3,500 Arab children die daily due to possibly curable diseases. He added that the figure includes 700 children dying every day from diseases which they can be vaccinated against.

Education
The sufferings of Arab children are not restricted to deprivation of full medical care, but are also due to a lack of cultural care.

International documents indicate that about 55 per cent of Arab boys are in school and 45 per cent of girls attend school. Therefore, about half of the future Arab generation will be illiterate.

An Arab statistical report noted that there is no room for eight million Arab children at the compulsory elementary education stage.

Kindergarten is approved as a right for children but only 16 per cent of Arab children are enrolled in kindergartens.

Undoubtedly these problems are aggravated by the lack of libraries, cultural, radio, television and cinema programmes.

Economic conditions play a major role in the failure of many Arab states to solve children's problems.

The per capita income of half of the League of Arab States member countries in 1985 was \$280.610, according to international statistics.

Occupation
External forces also contribute to the problems. Foremost is the Zionist occupation of Palestine. The Zionists not only deprived Arab children of integrity but also forced them to shoulder massive tasks, including confronting aggression, demolishing their national soil and feeding their

families. Moreover, scores of Palestinian children including infants were martyred due to Israeli Army fire.

Israeli intervention in Lebanon shattered the stability of the country. Lebanese children consequently were deprived of medical, cultural and social rights. Some families were forced to sell their children because they were unable to make a living. Even surviving children are threatened by incessant Israeli air raids and artillery fire.

However, the Arab states recently initiated a drive to provide a better future for children.

The oil-rich Arabian Gulf states are most capable of giving proper care to children.

Achievements
In Kuwait the mortality rate for children under 4 years was up to 24 per 1,000 in 1985, which is an acceptable level.

The rise in the country's national and per capita income resulted in providing children with the basic needs of nourishment, clothing and housing at high standards. Recreation facilities and gardens have also been provided.

According to 1984-85 statistics, kindergartens in Kuwait look after about 33 per cent of children from 3 to 6 years of age. Total kindergartens enrolment rose from 24,742 in the said year to 30,000 in 1987-1988.

Kuwait's child care also covers pregnant women as well as children in a bid to secure normal growth for children.

These massive achievements in Kuwait are not impaired by criticisms by childhood experts. These criticisms include the growing role of baby-sitters and foreign servants and the deterioration of a mother's care towards her children who are spoiled.

Kuwait's Arab child celebrations will include seminars, exhibitions, festivals and parties. The events will draw the attention of children to Arab issues and national values. Donations for the revolution of the stones in the occupied Arab territories will also be collected.

Tuition hikes came after careful study, official says

THE Ministry of Education's decision to increase tuition fees at private schools was made on the basis of a study on the financial aspects of the schools, according to Dr Yacoub Al Sharrar, Assistant Undersecretary of Education for private education affairs.

The last increase occurred in 1980. The Ministry's study encompassed 12 private schools; eight foreign and four Arab. The study indicated that 80 per cent of foreign schools made no profits. Additionally, three of the schools sampled incurred losses estimated at KD30,000 annually, the official said.

He added that the increase in tuitions for kindergartens and primary stages is less than the increase in tuitions of the intermediate and secondary stages. This increases varies according to the nature and type of services offered by these schools.

Tuitions of foreign schools differ from those at Arab schools. These tuitions determined by the Ministry for each private school are the maximum permissible. However, every school is free to collect tuitions less than the maximum permitted. However, the Ministry will not allow any school to reduce its tuitions at the expense of educational standards and services. The department of private education of the Ministry monitors the services and standards of private schools, Al Sharrar said.

He added that these tuitions could be reduced someday if the Ministry is convinced that a reduction is feasible.

Textbooks
Tuitions at Arabic schools subsidised by the Ministry are KD130 for kindergarten; KD67 for primary stage; KD105 for the intermediate and KD132.500 for the secondary section.

Tuitions at non-subsidised schools are KD130 for kindergarten; KD147.500 for primary stage; KD202.500 for the intermediate and KD250 for the secondary section. Transporta-

tion charges are KD65 for all stages, the official said.

He added that the father of a pupil has the right to claim a 50 per cent refund of the registration fees provided he notifies the school that his son will not be attending. Such notification should be given at least a week prior to beginning of the academic year.

Prior to their use at foreign schools all text books should be approved by the Ministry. Usually books that violate Arab and Islamic traditions are not approved. Foreign schools have different systems of education from those of Arabic schools.

Tuition fees at foreign private schools are: Kindergartens: KD575 in the New English School, Kuwait English School, Gulf English School, American School, Universal American School and Al Bayan School; KD975 in other English schools, Modern American School and French School; KD175 in Pakistani School (Urdu system) and KD240 for the English system; KD145 in Kuwait Indian School and KD170 in other Indian schools; and KD160 in the Bangladesh School.

Reduction
In a related development, the Minister of Education Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri received a cable from parents requesting reconsideration of the current problems at the French School, and a reduction of tuition fees.

The cable said that despite the support of the French government towards the school, the school administration increased tuition fees by 35 per cent and cut down on its spending in a manner which undermined its teaching policy.

This has resulted in fewer teachers and service staff at the school. Their salaries were reduced by 30 to 40 per cent while the number of students at each classroom increased to 40, the cable said.

Al Sharrar told a local newspaper that the increase was made after the school moved into its new model offices in Salmiya. The increase was only natural after the move and increases were pursued by all foreign schools, the official said.

Al Sharrar stressed the Ministry's attention to private institutes and educational offices to ensure continuous development of the teaching process and upgrading their programmes.

ANNOUNCEMENT

On the moving of the Kuwaiti Danish Computer Co. (KDCC) offices to:
Sharq — Al Gaz Tower Building — 14th Floor

Due to the expansion in the company's activities, our offices (Administration, Computers, Communication and Stores) have moved as from Oct. 1st, '88 to: Sharq Area — Ahmed Al Jaber St. — Al Gaz Tower Bldg. (Opposite Awadi Towers) — 14th Floor and the Basement.

The company can now be contacted on the following telephones:

— Administration and Sales: Tel. 2449590, 2449591, 2449592

— Telephones for maintenance of computer and communications: 2453830, 2453831, 2453832

— Telex for all sections: 44074 KDCCOMP KT

— Fax number for all sections: 2407038

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Near the Gulf Bank, Tunis St., Hawalli
(Abu Thiyab)

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مكتبة الأمل

INDIAN VIDEO ROUND UP

A woman's wait ends for the day of sweet revenge

By Fathima Ahmed

DIMPLE KAPADIA is trying to emerge as the female Amitabh Bachchan of Hindi cinema. Why else would she don leather boots, gallop on white stallions through high mountain passes and decimate big, hulky, muscled men by the dozens? And the icing on the cake is Dimple's new image as a women's liberator, a fiery lady, flying the flag of women's so-called liberation, as interpreted by Hindi commercial cinema. The recent examples are Dimple-starring *Gunahon Ka Faisla* and *Mera Shikar* — time for the fragile or docile stereotypes to move over and make way for the Sheraz (Sridevi) and Bijli (Dimple Kapadia).

Recently Dimple told a Bombay film journalist that it was about time men stopped dominating women (fair enough) and they should be held responsible (fine!) for their actions. Agreed. But to assert her right does a woman have to follow in the footsteps of Shabana (Gunahon Ka Faisla) and Bijli (Mera Shikar), and fire at random, kill mercilessly and join a dacoit gang to give the bad guys (there are hundreds in films) a tough time?

Yes, yes, yes, claim the makers of *Gunahon Ka Faisla* (The Sinful Decision) and *Mera Shikar* (My Victim).

Most Hindi films don't believe in reason. They aim for a spot on 'That's Incredible' or



Dimple Kapadia in *Aakhri Adalat*. In *Mera Shikar* and *Gunahon Ka Faisla* she plays 'action' roles

Ripley's Believe-it-or-Not-like *Gunahon Ka Faisla*, the story of two twins. Guess what (and no prizes for guessing right)? They were separated in childhood! One is docile (a dancing

girl) the other, temperamental (dacoit).

Whoever contrived the theme deserves a prize for the most unoriginal idea. This is no comedy of errors but a tragedy

of misadventure, perpetrated by the "Gang of Four", on responsible for separating the twins, killing someone's wife, someone else's husband, separating another family and so on and so forth. When the first villain grows, you flinch; as the second pulls faces, you wince; but the third's uncanny habit of pacing calms you down; and the fourth mutters "Verry gooooood". Very bad indeed, particularly when its makers indulge in self-defeating ploys, after we are told that the woman is no longer weak or unequal. For example: the dancing girl seeks a man's help to free her from the villain's clutches. His response: "A dancing girl has no right to protect herself; she is not honourable." Really? Who made her dishonourable?

Filmy excuses, unconvincing dialogue and poor direction further deteriorate the dismal quality, making us wonder if it was the right choice to watch *Gunahon Ka Faisla*. Dimple in a double role jumps from one character to another in a frenzy to impress. The script is not strong enough to support the enthusiastic actress who looks like a fish without water.

Shatrungha Sinha and Chunky Pandey play the male leads. Pompous Shatrungha lives up to his image; Chunky tries to ape the tall superstar. Both fail miserably.

Mera Shikar is on another high, waiting for the day of

sweet revenge. That it turns out to be a day of reckoning for viewers is another matter. The avenger destroys evil — not a novel concept. The vindicator: the iron lady Bijli, fretting, fuming and spitting fire. "Beware the wrath of a woman scorned," Bijli cries as the evil Chengeza rapes her sister in front of the entire village. This scene, lifted in toto from *Pratigat*, has been filmed in poor, repelling taste by the director of *Mera Shikar*.

Avenge

A war of words follows, setting the pace for the avenger's saga. "If a woman can give birth to man, she can also kill him," Bijli claims, only to encounter typical male reaction. "No man has been able to challenge me. How can a mere woman like you?" demands Chengeza. The rest of *Mera Shikar* is film history repeated for the umpteenth time and as such is certainly not engrossing enough to keep you from switching off the video. It's so loud, you'd need ear plugs to filter sound for audio frequency.

Dimple Kapadia seems to be on the way to mastering the art of the "action" woman, training in martial arts, man-hunting, riding and other assets needed for outbursts of superhuman energy. Like Bachchan, Dimple, perhaps, wants to do the garb of the angry young woman in Hindi films. Kabir Bedi provides moral support, and training, for Bijli's vendetta.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwania. Tel: 4712900.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Iftah Ya Simsim
9.45 News followed by Good Morning
10.00 Darb Al Zalaq: local serial, starring Khalid Al Nafisi, Abdul Hussain Abdul Rida, Saad Al Faraj, Ali Mufeedi
10.45 News Summary
11.00 Al Zankalooni: Arabic serial, featuring Mohammad Rida, Athar Al Hakim, Laila Taher, Ahmad Abdul Waris
12.10 Marine Life: documentary
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Ra'ad Al Amlaq: cartoon serial

KTV 2

5.15 Mama Anisa and Children
5.45 Songs and Music
6.00 La Ilaha Illallah: historical serial. Starring: Laila Fawzi, Tayseer Fahmi, Rushwan Taufiq, Huda Sulita
7.00 News Summary
7.30 Songs and Music
7.45 Quran and Science: "Alam Al Nabat"
8.30 Good Evening: daily roundup of local events
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Rayah Al Baidah: Arabic serial, starring Sana Jamil, Jamil Rafeh, Samiya Al Alfi, Sayyed Ziyad
10.45 Al Karbaj: Arabic play, featuring Yusuf Shaban, Laila Hamada, Samir Husni
11.35 News Summary
11.40 World News via Satellite, followed by Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoons
6.30 The Friends of My Friends: "Little Girls of the Souk." A new series for young viewers about how children live in different parts of the world.
7.00 Roving Report
7.30 Out of This World: "Evie: Get Your Basketball." Evie's supernatural powers hinder her friendship with a new schoolmate.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Miami Vice: The vice squad, embark on another thrilling assignment.
9.30 In Search of Firewalkers: a look at the tradition of firewalking in some parts of the world
10.00 You Can't Take It With You: a new series about a man who lives in the US and learns to abide by that country's rules
10.30 Jake and the Fatman: private eyes Jake and the Fatman gather clues to solve the murder of a senator's girlfriend
11.30 News Summary
11.40 Magazine: D'Accusation/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

Fahad and Ahmadi
Al Badiya Pharmacy
Jassim Dabbous Bldg., Dabbous St.
New Khaitan
Al Tasmah Pharmacy
New Khaitan
Jabra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Co-operative Society
Kuwait
Al Alamiya Pharmacy

Jandol Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.
Ibn Rushd Pharmacy
Souk Al Kuwait Bldg., Souk Duaj
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Ikhlas Pharmacy
Beirut St.
Salmiya and Rumathiya
Al Markhiya Pharmacy
Asfor Bldg., Omar Bin Al Aas St.

WHAT'S ON

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers
MONDAY/SATURDAY:
7.30 pm: Rehearsals for the December concert; at Gulf English School, Salwa. New members welcome. For enquiries call 3940770 ext. 56 or 5384873.

East meets West
OCT 6: IAC 6.30 pm: "East meets West," a musical evening, by The Pams with Hindi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Bengali, Arabic and Western music. Lead vocalist: Susan Rego. For entry by pass, see Tel: 2409250; 4743948 or IAC: 3904817.

Beat Show
OCT 14: IAC, Fumaites, 3.30 pm: The Kuwait Goan Beat Show: four-hours of non-stop music featuring six brass bands — City Limits, 5th Dimensions, Perfect Stranger, Stepping Stones, Next of Kin and Top Ranks. Organised by the Kuwait Goans.

Guitar Recital
OCT 19: Kuwait Hilton: Concert of German guitarist and composer Wolfgang Condin. "Hymns of Eternity," one of Condin's most significant compositions will be featured in his concert along with works by J.S. Bach and H. Villa-Lobos. Tickets are available from the Hilton lobby.

Rock the Night
SHORTLY: Auditions for male singers for Sounds Great rock concert due to be held on Nov 23/24. Tel: Montazer —

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Ighial Wa Darasah (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Ohaid, Hashim Salim, Jahirun
Al Salmiya
Secret Admirer
Starring: C. Thomas Howell, Preston Kelly
Al Hamra
Al Police Al Nisai (Arabic)
Starring: Iham Shabin, Hala Sudqi
Drive-In
Al Shawish Hussein (Arabic)
Starring: Scott Glenn, Robert Wehber
Al Firdous
Saamri 3-D (Hindi)
Starring: Rajan Sippy, Atri Gupta
Fahadheel Open-Air
Aatish (Hindi)
Al Fahadheel
Haunted Honeymoon
Al Jahra
Full Metal Jacket
Granada
Puma Man
Salaibkhat
Carry On Up The Jungle
Al Jleeb
Daagi (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Allieuja is Here: West is Tough Amigo

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.23 am
Zuhr 11.37
Asr 3.00 pm
Maghreb 5.31
Isha 6.49

5740256/7.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Opening Ball
OCT 13: Holiday Inn, Ballroom, Kuwait Players' opening ball. Cocktails at 7.30 pm; dinner and entertainment by the K.P. Band. Dress: formal. Membership discount applies. For reservations contact the social secretary on Tel: 3941572.

Konkani Drama
OCT 7: IAC, Fumaites, 4 pm: Konkani drama entitled "Xim Vo Ximter", written and directed by Cajetan De Sanvorden. Marcus Vaz, Xavier Gomes, featuring the Mendes Brothers' Entry passes available at Raja Stores.

KLT
OCT 6: Thursday, 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, at KLT, Ahmadi. Auditions for children to dance in the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

Brer Rabbit
SHORTLY: Audition for young boy — aged between seven and nine required for an acting-singing role for Sounds Great children's musical, Brer Rabbit, to be staged in November. Tel: Ken Winston — 5740256/7.

CINEMA

Children's Film
OCT 5 (Wed): 6 pm/Oct 6, 10.30 am: British Council, Mansouriya. Children's film Asterix the Gaul, 67 minutes, will be shown. Children of all nationalities welcome. Admission free but please reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204; 253-3227.

SOCIAL

Bengali Play
OCT 27/28: 6.30 pm, Mousetrap Theatre, The Mousetrap Group, a Bangladeshi theatre company, presents "Baliav, Eurer Rukpasha," a fairy tale. For reservations phone A. Karim — 2627643; Dr. Haidar — 5624456; Meron — 4893424.

Swedish Ladies
coffee afternoon
OCT 4: 4 pm: Swedish Ladies coffee afternoon at the home of Kerstin Granander.

Danish Meeting
OCT 5: 8 pm. Daniella starts social season with a bingo game at the Gazelle club, TV Room. For reservations call Connie — 3715637; Lizzy — 3710478.

Video Workshop
OCT 5/10: Kuwait Players will hold two video workshops giving instruction and practice

on their video system, used for recording stage productions; live editing console and sound mixing system. Members and newcomers welcome. Limited number of places. Tel: 5628227.

SPORTS

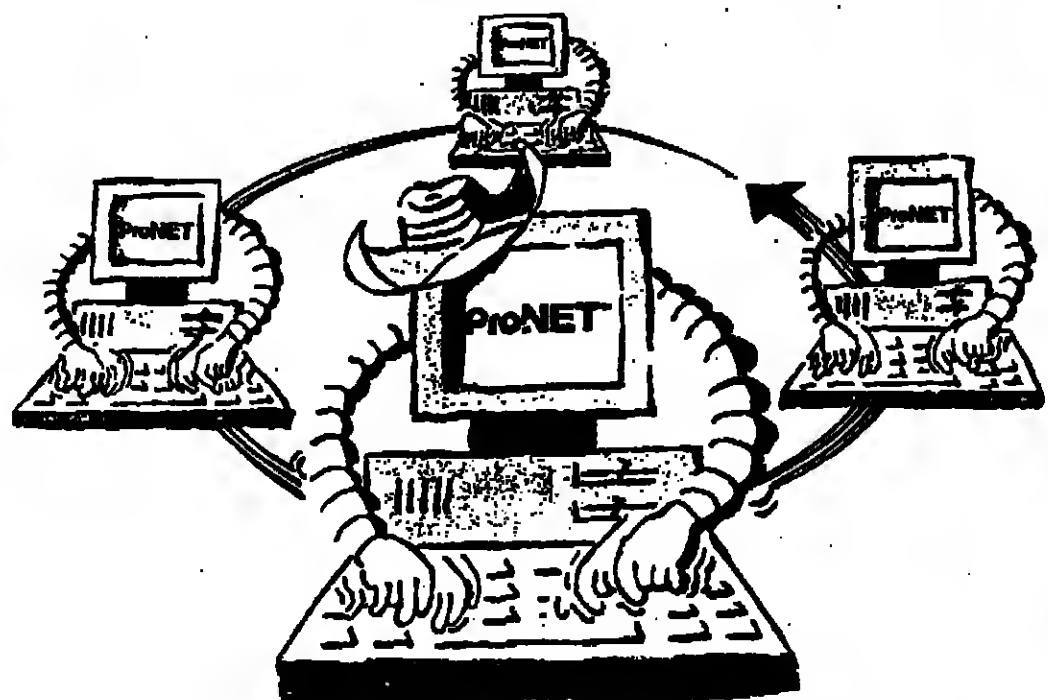
PBAK Bowling Tournament
OCT 6: 6.30 pm, 300 Club. Men's Division: Far East Rest vs Al Naqeeh & Khattar; Phil Supreme vs 300 Club; Magnolia ice cream vs Kay Asso.

OCT 7: 1 pm. Men's Division: Phil Supreme vs Satellite Co; PPA Shuaiba vs 300 Club; Hatid Ligaya vs Al Qahandi. Women's Division: 9 am Magnolia vs Ged's Kay; Boodai vs Far East Rest.

Tug of War Competition
OCT 21: United Goans Centre will hold tug of war competition. Competitors are requested to contact organisers on 21/10 at Al Soor Ground for entry forms.

Laser Club
NOV 4: Start of the Messilah Beach Laser Club's winter racing season. Laser owners and others interested are welcome. Instruction available. For details contact D. Clark — 2425947; P. Shepherd — 5314957; 4841513; P. Berry — 3924174.

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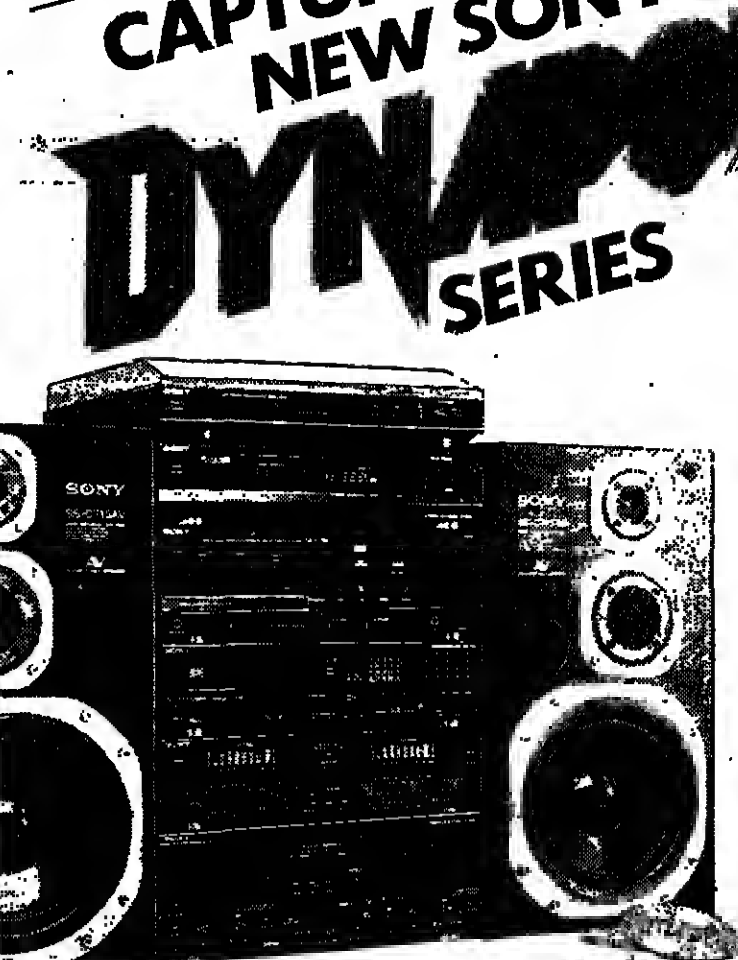
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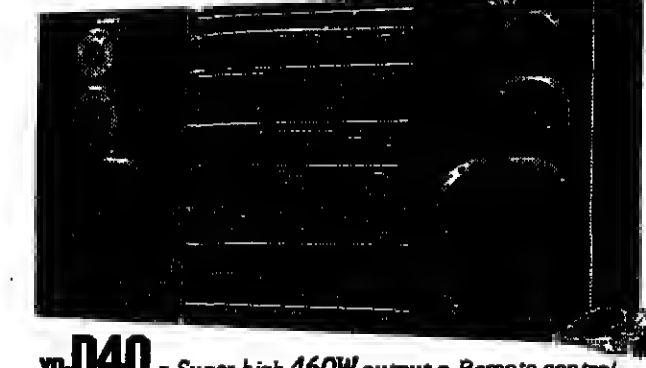
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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WORDS once spoken can never be recalled — Wentworth Dillon, English poet (about 1633-1685).

OPINION

Soviet leader gains positive responses

HISTORIES of nations, old and modern, are always made by one personality — one man only with whom the nation's fortunes or disasters are linked to.

This personality, throughout history, creates changes — positive and negative. If positive, the changes contribute towards building a giant state and if they are negative they send the country into destruction.

The history of Germany is an example. Hitler led his country to destruction and also adversely affected other parts of the world. America was fortunate with well-known political figures, including those who ended the civil war, those who unified the country, and prominent personalities who laid down the US Constitution. Likewise, Britain had its famous personalities in history.

Now comes the turn of Russia. Although the Soviet Union had many occasions throughout its modern history and lived with many changes and developments after the Bolshevik Revolution, such changes were followed by stagnation in the Russian political arena.

This stagnation continued until the arrival of Mikhail Gorbachev who came to rewrite the history of Russia through a positive outlook on reality.

The Soviet leader has created changes that seem to have gained positive responses and support inside his country and the rest of the world which objectively understands developments.

Regrettably, or rather it is funny, that the only opponents of the policy of the Soviet leader are the Arab communists who consider his measures as "imperialistic".

We really do not know what they mean by their accusations and opposition. But, it appears that they are worried about losing an important feature they have been enjoying in their countries which is the exploitation of the communist ideology for selfish ends.

After the new trends and policies of the Soviet leader, the Arab communists are no more capable of trading with the communist ideology in their countries.

Through this trade, they have been enjoying Havana cigars, Iranian caviar and many other luxuries. These Arab communists were the only ones who opposed the Russian leader's moves and further objected to the Russian peoples support of their leader.

But, it is said that problems of some people may benefit others. The ideology that Gorbachev is trying to modify was exploited by some of the communist ideology representatives in the Arab world for their personal needs. They used the communist ideology in the form of "empty talk" to achieve more personal benefits.

This picture truly represented and still represents the position of Arab Communists.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Chile may give thumbs down to Pinochet

By Tom Harvey

SANTIAGO, Chile. (UPI) — "Tell him 'No', tell him 'No' tell him 'No'!" cries a vendor hawking political buttons to a noontime crowd. Chile may do just that in Wednesday's plebiscite on Gen. Augusto Pinochet extending his 15-year rule.

Both sides — especially Pinochet — appear convinced they will win in a vote both say should be fraud-free because of the opposition's ability to monitor every step.

The plebiscite is Chile's first chance since the 1970 to vote on a president. Pinochet is the only candidate, and voters can only mark "Yes" or "No." Approval gives Pinochet eight more years as president. "No" leads in an open election in 1989.

Pinochet seized power in the Sept. 11, 1973 coup in which Socialist President Salvador Allende died. Ever since, his stern face, vehement anti-communism and iron-fisted authoritarianism has dominated Chilean life.

The plebiscite follows a 1980 military-written constitution that gives the armed forces a dominating role in any government that results.

The 16 opposition parties put aside severe ideological differences in February and formed a coalition called "The Command for the No." It has made the campaign running, shaping the vote as a choice between a dictator and democracy.

"Pinochet will be defeated Oct 5 by the will of the people," said Patricia Aylwin, leader of the coalition. "We are convinced of a victory for the 'No'."

Opposition leaders tell rallies of hundreds of thousands of people Chileans are tired of living in a "war" atmosphere imposed by the military.

The opposition has capitalised on the political junta's grant of a daily 15 minutes of television time for the campaign's final months. It has an upbeat catchy theme song and a rainbow symbol.

Pinochet has done little personal campaigning, and failed to attract significant crowds when he did appear. His 15-minute daily television programme compares unfavourably with the opposition's, mostly reacting to the opposition campaign and showing scenes of civil unrest to claim that Pinochet represents stability.

Pinochet's exhaustive speeches were filled with economic statistics and personal attacks on former associates now with the opposition.

"This plebiscite has served to demonstrate the amount of loyalty that some people have," Pinochet said, departing from one prepared text.

"In reality, it is painful when one has extended his hand to another and instead of an embrace, he gives you a knife in the back."

An opposition-associated poll showed the "Yes" vote dramatically losing ground.

Impossible

"We believe it is practically impossible for the 'Yes' to be able to recuperate in the time left before the plebiscite," said Carlos Huneeus, a political scientist in charge of the poll.

But Pinochet has used an entire government and military apparatus to make populist tax cuts, raise government workers' pay, create new housing for the poor and — say human rights groups — to threaten, pressure and frighten opposition voters.

"The 'Yes' propaganda is very violent," said Cynthia Brown of the human rights group America's Watch. "The tone is very confrontational. It's a way off-frightening people."

The military has loosened some controls lately — lifting a state of emergency after 15 years, allowing the return of political exiles and granting the opposition television time. But the opposition and human rights groups charge that considerable restrictions remain. The Chilean Human Rights Commission said it has documented numerous recent cases of torture and other rights violations.

Top Communist Party bureaucrats lose their jobs

By Ann Imbe

MOSCOW, (AP) — The Soviet Communist Party has taken sweeping steps to streamline its own bureaucracy and to remove itself from the day-to-day management of the economy, a key goal of party leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

In a swift meeting Friday, the party's policy-making Central Committee eliminated some departments of the party's prodigious bureaucracy and consolidated others. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of the Soviet Union's top Communist Party bureaucrats will lose their jobs, and the job of running the new, consolidated departments appears to have gone to Gorbachev supporters.

"A considerable amount of real political power is being transferred to the local level," spokesman Vadim Medvedev told a news conference following his own elevation Friday to the party's ruling politburo.

The party has long had many bodies at the central and local level, that oversee — sometimes in minute detail — the work of government organs, industry and agriculture. Such bodies add a bureaucracy of their own alongside the nation's economic

Gorbachev consolidates power

and administrative machinery, and Gorbachev has called for the reduction of their influence as part of his programme to solve the country's economic problems.

Medvedev said Friday that that departments traditionally responsible for overseeing industrial enterprises throughout the country are being eliminated.

Under the system of central planning established by Josef Stalin, party and government bureaucrats in Moscow have long made decisions as minute as how many nails should go to a Siberian city.

In cutting the number of Central Committee departments from approximately 20 to just six, Gorbachev consolidated power in a smaller number of positions and won most of those jobs for backers of his policies.

Two of the six, Georgy Razumovsky and Alexander Yakovlev, are key Gorbachev advisers. Two more are men elevated to the politburo under Gorbachev, Nikolai Slyunkov and Medvedev.

Only one of the six new jobs went to a man considered a Gorbachev rival, Yegor Ligachev.



Mikhail Gorbachev

and his transfer from the party's No. 2 post to the agriculture portfolio appeared to be a demotion.

These decisions, extensive enough to shake the Moscow power structure to its foundations, were made in less than an hour as the 300-member Central Committee accepted the recommendations of the politburo, which now has 12 full members.

The meeting bore none of the marks of the new openness Gorbachev championed at the national party conference just three months ago.

However, President Andrei Gromyko and politburo member Mikhail Solomentsev, who retired from their party posts Friday, were among those named in a stunning public criticism at the party conference in June as members of an old guard who ought to be removed.

Medvedev said Friday's personnel changes were designed to place in key positions "people who support perestroika," Gorbachev's policy of economic reform, and "those who enjoy the full trust of party members and non-party members."

The new Central Committee arrangement abolishes seven of the eight departments of the party's Central Committee devoted to specific industries. It creates new commissions that are expected to become the departments of a reorganised Central Committee.

Agriculture, long a serious problem for the Soviet Union, will be the only branch of the economy with one of the six new commissions devoted just to it.

The other five commissions will be concerned with broad policies, in line with Gorbachev's stated goal of having the party

give general direction rather than detailed orders.

Razumovsky has been named to run the personnel commission, a key position determining hiring, firing and promotions. Yakovlev will be responsible for the commission that oversees international affairs.

Medvedev, an economics professor, gets Ligachev's former post in charge of ideology in a commission that now will include the former departments of propaganda, culture and education. Nikolai Slyunkov, who made the Byelorussian republic an example of Gorbachev's economic perestroika, was given the commission dealing with socio-economic concerns.

Promotion

Viktor M. Chebrikov, the KGB chief, gets the commission on legal and judicial policy, an apparent promotion. Chebrikov may be relieved of the KGB post when the nation's legislature holds an extraordinary session to make personnel changes related to those made by the party Friday.

More personnel changes are expected when two legislative

bodies meet to consider changes stemming from the Central Committee decisions.

The Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union is expected to name a new KGB chief, since Chebrikov is unlikely to hold two such important jobs.

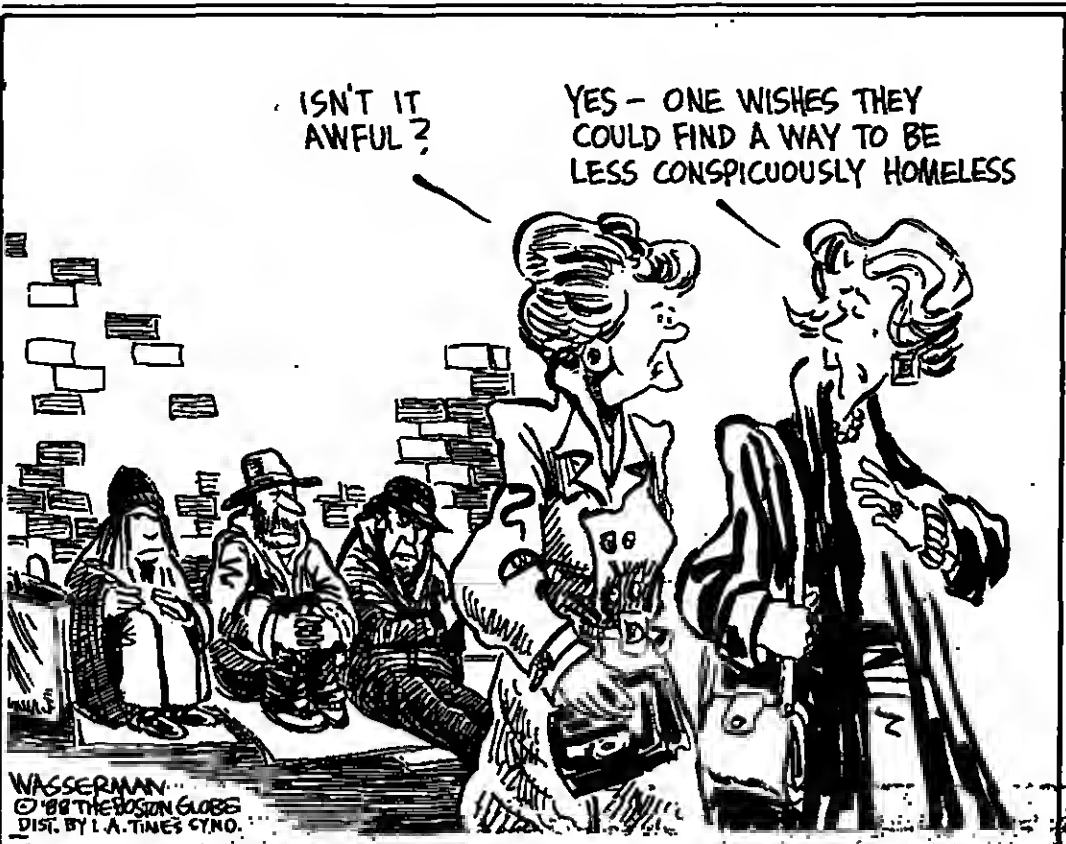
There will be a meeting today of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, the largest of the 15 Soviet republics. This has led to speculation that the chairman of its council of ministers, politburo member Vitaly Vornikov, is heading for a new assignment.

As many as half the Central Committee's staff members will lose their jobs and be transferred to government, universities, and professional jobs, Medvedev said.

When asked the current size of that bureaucracy, he would say only that a reporter's estimate of 6,000 was "several times" too large.

The Central Committee staff fills an imposing office complex in Moscow topped with a red banner.

The transfers will be made very carefully. Medvedev emphasized, because "the party apparatus has the best personnel. They are professionals. We will try to create favourable conditions for them."



US relaxed about improving Sino-Soviet relations

By Carol Giacomo

UNITED NATIONS. (Reuters) — The United States is watching the gradually improving relations between the two communist giants, China and the Soviet Union, with great interest but little, if any, anxiety.

This rather relaxed attitude is a measure of how comfortable Washington is with both nations and how far its own relations with each of them have advanced in recent years.

"Clearly, China and the Soviet Union have been moving for quite a long time toward eventual normalisation of relations," one State Department official said.

"If this will help with a reduction of tensions in Asia and worldwide, then we're in favour of it," he told Reuters.

Added another State Department official: "I don't think people being friends will hurt us."

Visit

The two communist countries took a new step this week when Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen agreed to visit Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow by year's end.

It would be the first time that a Chinese foreign minister has

visited Moscow since the 1960s, although Qian himself has been there on numerous occasions acting as a special envoy involved in consultations on relations between the two countries.

China suspended relations in 1979 when Soviet troops went into Afghanistan but in 1982 the two communist powers began discussions on normalisation.

Since then, it has been increasingly clear that both sides wanted improved ties. "It was just a question of how much, how soon," the State Department official said.

Diplomacy

Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, reflecting the urgency that has often earmarked Soviet diplomacy since Mikhail Gorbachev became Kremlin leader in 1985, said he hoped Qichen's visit — to be followed by a Shevardnadze trip to Beijing — would clear the way for a summit.

US analysts expect this, but not necessarily soon.

"It's impossible to tell when this summit might happen," one US official said. "A lot depends on what will convince the Chinese that the Soviets are doing something to usher the Vietnamese out of Kampuchea."

The Soviet presence in Afghanistan, once a major obstacle to Sino-Soviet relations, is diminishing as Moscow's troops are withdrawn under a UN-mediated accord.

While Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea remains the primary barrier to better ties, new diplomatic activity has raised hopes Hanoi will accede to a peace settlement.

US officials said they do not know if Shevardnadze gave Qichen specific assurances in a meeting at the United Nations, that Moscow would press Vietnam to withdraw its troops.

A spokesman for the Chinese UN mission, Yuan Shihong, refused to discuss details of the ministers' talks.

But asked to assess the chances for a summit, he told Reuters: "We think they (the Soviets) should try to do something beneficial to create conditions for summit talks... when the conditions are ready, a summit will take place."

Asked if the obstacles to a summit had lessened, he replied: "There is still much hard work before the summit meeting... It is hoped both China and the Soviet Union will make efforts towards this end."

As Qichen pointed out in his speech to the UN General Assembly on Wednesday, Vietnam's co-operation on Kampuchea still falls short of China's demands.

Withdraw

"While professing their readiness to withdraw their troops, they have put forward unreasonable demands in an attempt to delay their troop withdrawal and legalise the results of their aggression," Qichen said.

At one time, the warming trend between two major US military adversaries would have alarmed Washington.

But given the profound improvement in Soviet-American relations over the past three years, it is seen more in the context of a global pattern that puts a premium on talk of co-operation rather than conflict.

While not referring specifically to Moscow in his speech, Qichen stressed that "dialogue is playing an increasingly prominent role in improving the international situation."

Despite such talk, China is not about to let itself be "drawn into the (Soviet) bear's embrace," a US official said.

Gromyko known for his loyalty to Kremlin chiefs

MOSCOW, (AP) — Andrei Gromyko, a stone-faced diplomat known for his precision, self-control and loyalty to the Kremlin chief of the day, served a series of Soviet leaders from Josef Stalin to Mikhail Gorbachev.

The 79-year-old Gromyko, who retired from his seat on the Communist Party's ruling politburo on Friday, was a skillful and tough advocate of Soviet positions over 26 years as foreign minister. He represented Moscow in negotiations with Western leaders from Winston Churchill to President Jimmy Carter.

The length of his experience enabled him to cite historical precedents and previous agreements in a way few others could, often aiding him significantly in negotiations.

Gromyko could move deftly to reflect the policies of the different administrations he served. He became famous in Western circles as "Mr. Nyet" of the cold war years, then quickly accommodated himself to "Lebanon" Brezhnev's détente policies in the 1970s and to Gorbachev's new leadership after 1985.

Stereotyped

Though sometimes stereotyped as a conservative who would naturally oppose new ideas, he was the one to formally nominate Gorbachev for the party leadership in March 1985. Then, he apparently willingly took up the largely ceremonial Soviet presidency after Gorbachev replaced him as foreign

minister four months later. Gromyko outlasted Stalin, Nikita Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Yuri Andropov and Konstantin Chernenko, all leaders of the Soviet Union.

His long tenure attested to a competence that enabled him to survive the political upheavals in the Soviet Union.

"As a thoroughly professional practitioner of the diplomatic trade, he has few peers in the modern world," Cyrus Vance, then the US Secretary of State, said in 1978.

Gromyko was born in Byelorussia, now a republic on the western edge of the Soviet Union, on July 18, 1909. Official biographies say he was the son of poor peasants.

He earned a doctorate in economic science, but left teaching at the age of 30 to join the Foreign Ministry under Stalin's rule in 1939. Diplomatic ranks had been severely depleted by Stalin's purges.

Loyalty

Khrushchev named him foreign minister in 1957, and Gromyko soon had an opportunity to prove his legendary loyalty and self-control. At the United Nations, Khrushchev told reporters that Gromyko was so loyal, he would drop his pants and sit on a block of ice if Khrushchev told him to do so. Gromyko remained impassive as Khrushchev spoke.

Though he served as a loyal foreign minister to all Soviet leaders, Gromyko's star rose

particularly high during Andropov's leadership in 1982-84. In March 1983, he became first deputy premier in addition to his post as foreign minister and member of the politburo.

Gromyko's name was linked with practically every important international political event through World War II, the cold war in the 1950s and early 1960s and then détente. He held some of the government's most demanding posts and attended every US-Soviet summit. The exception was the one in November 1985 between Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan, when Gromyko was no longer foreign minister.

Ambassador

Gromyko was named ambassador to the United States in the height of World War II in 1943 at the age of 34 after ambassador Maxim Litvinov was recalled. Gromyko had been in Washington as a lower-ranking diplomat for four years, from the start of his entry into the Foreign Ministry.

Most of the charter seeks to undo the legacy of military rule. That rule began with a coup against a civilian government in 1964. The coup allowed the Brazilian military to create a ruling machine centred around the presidency. The president ruled by decree; the judiciary and legislative branches of government were practically nonexistent; individual citizens had few ways of protecting their rights.

Torture

Brazil in the late 1960s and early '70s saw indiscriminate arrests and torture. But in the late '70s, the military — faced with rising opposition to authoritarianism — began a period of political relaxation. For the first time since the generals took charge, a civilian president was elected in 1985. The president elect, Tancredino Neves, died before he could be inaugurated. But his successor, Jose Sarney, kept his pledge to preside over the drafting of a new charter.

The constitution fights the past on two fronts: individual rights and the balance of power. On the first front, the police can no longer make indiscriminate arrests, and must read rights to those arrested. Judges may not set bail for persons accused of torture. Citizens have access to their police and other government records. The government may not read private correspondence and can only tap a telephone after receiving a court order. The new charter bans virtually all censorship.

On the second front, the new document shifts power from the presidency to the bicameral National Congress, the judiciary, and local officials. Congress now has a say on the budget, foreign debt agreements, and the drafting of national laws. The court system has gained financial and administrative autonomy and become more accessible. Brazilians may now bring class-action suits, for example.

The constitution also gives a greater share of tax revenues directly to state and municipal governments, which now depend on federal handouts. This will make local government more powerful and more accountable. The old charter forced recipients of federal funds to beg for money from ministries in Brasilia, or use congressmen as intermediaries. In the process, corruption was easily hidden from the folks back home.

But consensus on the constitution's political framework was not matched by a consensus on its economic measures. Brazil's urban elites felt the government should get out of the economy and open it up to foreign investment and greater competition; those who drafted the charter disagreed. The representatives favoured Brazilian-owned firms in mining, government contracts, and petroleum exploration. Thus the new charter protects the interests of some local businesses that grew strong during the years of economic development under the military.

The constitution also reflects many Brazilians' disgust with banks, whose profits have swelled with the growth of inflation. (Prices are rising at 20 to 24 per cent per month). The new charter limits interest on bank lending and government bonds to 12 per cent a year, over and above inflation. No one is sure how this will affect the government's ability to control the money supply and inflation, though some economists say it will fan the inflationary flames.

To businessmen's dismay, Brazil's low-paid workers also benefit from the new charter. A new law extends the right to strike to public employees and "essential" services, such as transport, medicine, and electricity. The charter also reduces work done in shifts to six hours, from the current eight-hour day.

The Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1574 — William of Orange raises siege of Leyden.
- 1763 — Augustus III, elective king of Poland, dies.
- 1866 — War between Austria and Italy ends by Treaty of Vienna.
- 1899 — Settlement of British Guiana-Venezuela boundary dispute.
- 1904 — Franco-Spanish treaty for preserving independence of Morocco.
- 1918 — German-Austrian note is sent to United States via Switzerland for World War I armistice.
- 1929 — Name of Serbo-Croat-Slovene kingdom is changed to Yugoslavia.
- 1932 — Iraq joins League of Nations as British mandate ends.
- 1935 — Italian forces invade Ethiopia.
- 1941 — Germany's Adolf Hitler announces in World War II that Soviet Union has been defeated and never will rise again.
- 1952 — British test their first atomic bomb off coast of Australia.
- 1966 — British colony of Basutoland becomes new independent African nation of Lesotho.
- 1971 — Luna 19, unmanned Soviet spacecraft, goes into orbit around moon.
- 1977 — India's former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is arrested in New Delhi on two charges of corruption while in office.
- 1987 — Tamil-Sinhalese violence continues in eastern Trincomalee district in Sri Lanka.

المجلة العربية

Finding drugs to halt muscle wastage

Muscular tissue is the body's reservoir for vital proteins that can be called up in situations of starvation, infection and cancer. Now a team of researchers in the UK are refining a way of preventing the muscle wastage that accompanies much sickness.

By Jane Bird

THERE is more to muscle than the well-oiled grime of the face of the body-builder.

Muscular tissue is the body's reservoir for vital proteins that can be called up in situations of starvation, infection and cancer. Now a team of researchers in Aberdeen are refining a way of preventing the muscle wastage which accompanies much sickness.

The scientists, working at Aberdeen's Rowett Research Institute, have discovered that the drug clenbuterol can be used both to promote growth in normal muscle and also to prevent wasting.

Muscle comprises over half the body's mass, yet we still know surprisingly little about what makes it grow.

Clenbuterol belongs to the same family as adrenaline and was originally developed in the mid-1960s as an anti-asthmatic for racehorses. One of its side-effects was that it made the horses grow.

Growth

However, the type of growth shown in the animals was different from that caused by conventional growth promoters such as steroids and hormones. These make the whole animal get bigger, whereas clenbuterol only affects the muscles.

This is of particular interest to the agriculture industry, which is trying to respond to the demands of increasingly health-conscious consumers for leaner meat.

A small dose of clenbuterol will reduce the fat content of an animal by 20 per cent and increase muscle by 20 per cent. Five years ago the Rowett

Institute in the UK, whose brief is to examine animal and human nutrition, decided to investigate clenbuterol scientifically.

"We started looking at the effect of the drug on laboratory rats and found it could make the individual fibres in the muscle grow," says Dr Charlotte Maltin, the team leader.

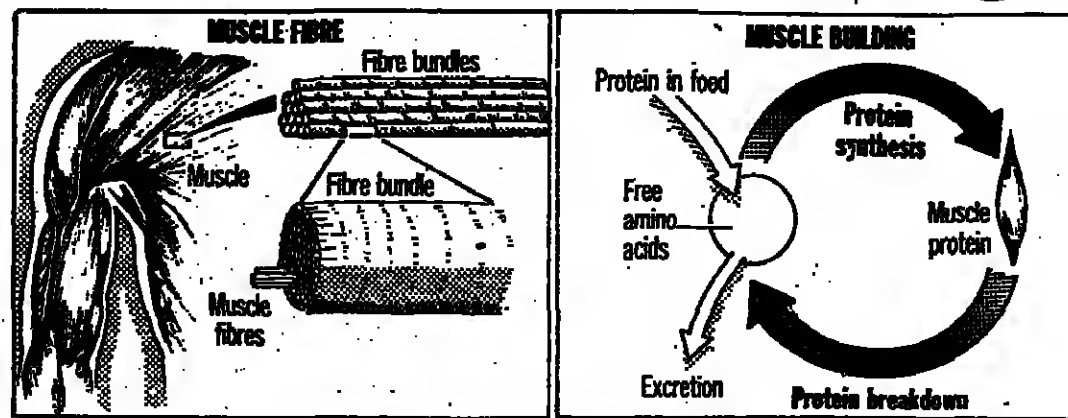
Muscle grows by a circular process of manufacturing and breaking down proteins. The amount of growth is the balance between the amount made and the amount broken down. Maltin could see that clenbuterol worked on healthy tissue by interfering with this balance and suppressing the breakdown.

Next, she decided to see what would happen if the balance was already upset, and the tissue already wasting. Here the results were even more exciting. "We found that the drug could not only prevent wasting, but could actually reverse the process," she says. "These effects have very wide-ranging clinical implications."

The need for a drug which can selectively promote muscle growth or limit wasting exists in many pathological situations affecting large numbers of patients, such as:

- cases of trauma where patients are immobilised for long periods and muscle wasting occurs, such as the victim of a road accident who was in traction for many weeks.
- neuromuscular diseases and conditions such as cancer.
- intensive care of patients where substantial loss of body protein occurs.

The next phase of the research will be to look at the



therapeutic effects of the drug for humans in these situations. "All patients in plaster or fibreglass casts end up with some wasting on their thigh muscles. Many are young, healthy and normally working," Maltin points out. While their limbs are in casts, clenbuterol could be used to keep the mus-

cles strong and healthy. When the supports are removed, physiotherapy need be less prolonged and the muscle should make a more rapid recovery. "This would save a lot of time and money by getting patients out of their hospital beds and back to work sooner," says Maltin.

The need for a drug which can selectively promote muscle growth or limit wasting exists in many pathological situations affecting large numbers of patients such as cases of trauma, road accident, neuromuscular diseases and conditions such as cancer.

Muscular wasting is also one

of the more debilitating side effects of radiotherapy and chemotherapy for cancer patients. Clenbuterol might work well as a method of building up the muscle and making the patient stronger prior to treatment.

Maltin also wants to probe the interaction between muscle

and nerves. "Whenever the nerve supply is cut, the muscle is inactive and degenerative changes occur. Plastic surgeons are interested in clenbuterol because it could be used to maintain not only the muscle's size, but also its functionality. So once the nerve grows back it finds a well-for-

med muscle in place. The Rowett team is keen to try and understand the mechanism of the drug's action. If it can work out how the drug is influencing the production of muscle protein at a genetic level, it might be able to cut out the drug and use genetic engineering to achieve a similar effect.

Hope for Down's Syndrome babies

By Barbara Lamb

WITH any luck, six-month-old Alasdair Davies, a Down's Syndrome child, has every chance of leading a semi-normal life.

Physically he is off to a good start. His heart was sound, whereas 50 per cent of Down's children have heart problems. His hearing and eyesight have yet to be checked out — 67 per cent suffer from eye defects. Typical of Down's children, his immune system is weak and ordinary childhood illnesses such as measles will be severe.

His mother, 39-year-old Jill, is totally without self-pity that Alasdair was born with Down's Syndrome. On the contrary, after 10 years of trying to have a child and practically giving up, she and her husband Matthew are thrilled to have him. They are grateful to be able to boast they are parents at last — hardly a day went by when Jill didn't shed a tear that she could never conceive.

Thankful

They are thankful too that, so far, no physical disabilities have been revealed. He is fairly alert, eats well, sleeps through the night, and they hope that he will spend most of his school to stretch any ability he may have.

It is because the Davieses feel so optimistic about Alasdair's future that they enthusiastically gave their consent for his picture to be used for a national poster campaign in the UK to mark the Down's Syndrome Association's 18th birthday.

"This child has a future," is the message. The child is loved and wanted, the aim is to dispel any misconception that Down's children should be hidden away.

One in every 660 births is the UK is a Down's Syndrome. Not a disease, it is a genetic accident, the result of an extra chromosome. For most parents, in that one traumatic moment when the news is broken, their dreams are shattered.

But today the picture is far from bleak, with a whole new generation of Down's children whose achievements often exceed the aspirations of their parents and teachers.

That is why an adjoining poster to the one with Alasdair will show a young Down's adult holding down a worthwhile job in a career.

Most Down's children are educable, the association is saying, many do grow up to be adults capable of a lot more than we give them credit for.

But realistically what are the chances of Alasdair leading a normal life? Blind and cut as

Not a disease but a genetic accident, the result of an extra chromosome. But today the picture is far from bleak with a whole new generation of Down's children whose achievements often exceed the aspirations of their parents and teachers.



A UK advertising poster promoting a positive attitude towards Down's Syndrome babies.

he is, Jill and Matthew must prepare themselves for months of uncertainty while the severity of his handicap is monitored and learn to accept the embarrassed stares, for Alasdair, however bright, will always possess the distinctive facial features that say mental handicap.

Unrealistic

Perhaps too, they are unrealistic in their expectations of him attaining full-time normal school — only a minority ever achieve that. At worst it could mean years of special education, struggling with a menial job at the end of it, totally reliant on others.

But if on the other hand he is given a clean bill of health and his IQ is high at about 50, he could learn skills such as operating a computer, pass his driving test, take music exams.

Jill and Matthew are convinced that being comfortably off — they both have their own companies — will enable them to provide that extra piece of equipment which may be a useful stimulus.

For Jill, there was never any question of having an abortion, even if any amniocentesis test had told her that the baby would have Down's Syndrome. "There is this assumption that every affected child is going to

be the same," she says. She is not typical; there must be many women who would choose to abort in these circumstances.

Jill's optimism is shared by Dr Brian Struttford, lecturer in special education at Nottingham University who has written several books on the subject. He champions the Down's cause, having been the father of a Down's child himself.

"Being a parent of such a child changes your life, your attitude to the world," he says. "You are cut off from all those aspirations like will she be a teacher, will he be a doctor, and forced to look at things as they really are, appreciate every little development, every tiny effort. It is good for siblings too, it can make them more compassionate."

"If parents feel the child they gave birth to is not acceptable to society, that's a great pity. The important thing is: is the child acceptable to them?"

Encouraging

But it is hardly encouraging for those faced with the decision to learn that there are more separations and divorces, more family problems when a Down's child is born. But it is a weak marriage that cannot take that extra burden.

As Down's children grow up, the family problems grow. Except for the 20 per cent who will never be capable of holding down any job, there are work opportunities. But as Dr Struttford says, they tend to be menial ones and are not always socially acceptable to the parents. Are Matthew's ambitions for Alasdair unrealistic? Holding down a job at Sainsbury's is no great achievement, he says, and he would like him to be able to create something, whether playing music or doing computer diagrams.

On this, Dr Michael Baraitser, clinical geneticist at Great Ormond Street Hospital, issues a note of warning: "I would think it unrealistic for parents to expect their child to attend normal school five days a week. Or the very few who have attended full time, some have been pushed very hard and ended up broken down in other ways. You can stretch these children within limits but not if it's going to make them unhappy."

But he is still optimistic. "Less Down's children are institutionalised today, and the parents can't possibly cope with the Down's baby there are hundreds of others who are only too happy to adopt. The child can be happy to adopt. The child can be happy, can be sad, can experience love or hate. These children do have a future; the association is right to stress that."

They say: "We cannot exclude a psychological explanation for our findings, but the superiority of the beneficial effect of pressure at the P6 as compared with a dummy point, suggests that the former has some real therapeutic value."

The doctors point out that even if the technique does not help all patients suffering from morning sickness, it has absolutely no harmful side effects.

Pressure is applied to the precise point on the wrist by wearing an elasticated wrist band with a small stud placed to press on the right spot, approximately three fingers' width from the first crease of the wrist.

The bands were developed in America and are claimed to provide relief from other forms of nausea including seasickness.

Elastic band cure for morning sickness

By David Fletcher

MORNING sickness which makes pregnancy a misery for thousands of women can be reduced by the simple remedy of wearing an elasticated band round the wrist, doctors claimed.

A study of 350 pregnant women concluded that pressure applied to a spot on the inside of the wrist known as the neiguan point successfully reduces morning sickness.

The study was carried out by Dr John Dunne and Dr George Ghaly at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Belfast, after seeing a "convincing

demonstration" on a visit to China of the effectiveness of acupuncture on the wrist to reduce post-operative sickness.

They have published details of their study in the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine.

For a year they allocated pregnant patients at random to different groups, one being asked to apply daily pressure on the neiguan point, known as P6, and another being asked to apply pressure to a "dummy" point on the elbow.

The doctors found that those pressing the wrist point suffered significantly less sickness than those applying pressure to the dummy point on the elbow.

Chemotherapy causes blood clots

CHEMOTHERAPY can apparently cause blood clots, indicating research is needed to find ways to reduce the potentially deadly side effect, researchers say.

Dr Mark N Levine and his colleagues at the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation in Canada studied 205 women undergoing preventive chemotherapy for breast cancer.

To a report published recently

in the New England Journal of Medicine, the researchers found about 7 per cent of the women experienced blood clots while receiving chemotherapy compared with none while they were out.

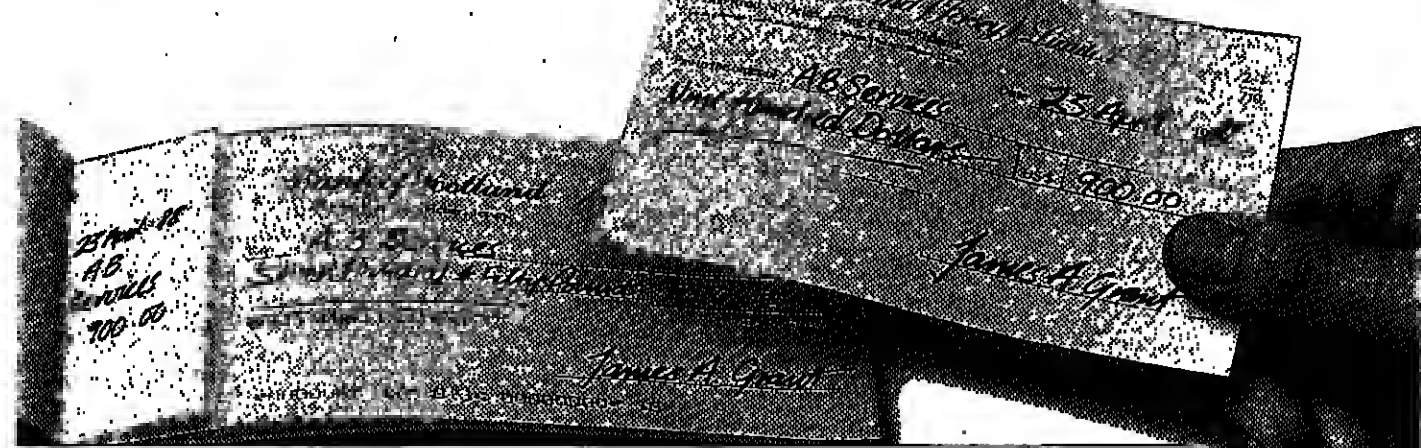
"This looks like pretty clear evidence that the drug can cause clotting," said Levine.

Although the reasons remain unclear, Levine said the findings indicate that perhaps drugs

that thin the blood or other measures should be used during chemotherapy to reduce the chances of blood clots developing.

"It's a major complication in managing cancer patients. If they have a blood clot you may have to stop the chemotherapy and put them on blood thinners. We have to learn more about why this happens and find ways to prevent it," he said.

OFFSHORE IN JERSEY



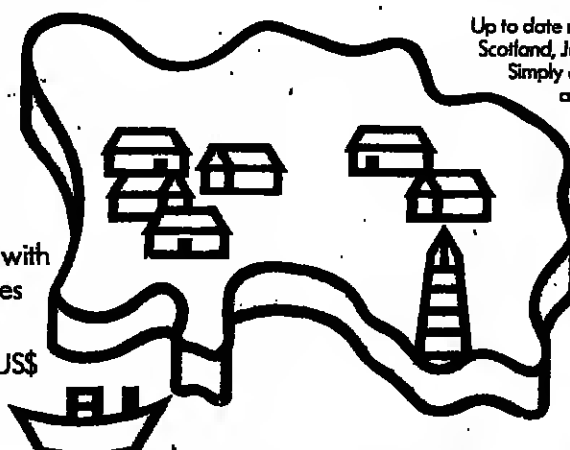
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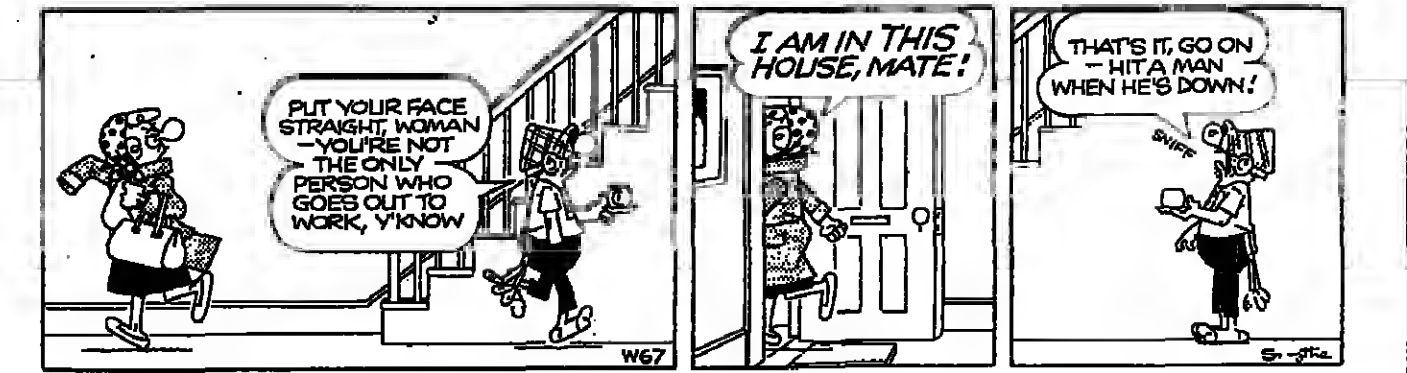
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ANDY CAPP

By Smith



Kirk Douglas talks about his autobiography

Memories from the land of make-believe

By Bryan Appleyard

"A MAN with a dimple on his chin on Sunday morning can't be all bad! There are so few of us."

But your reporter's cleft is nothing on Kirk Douglas. This is a real abyss, an impact crater with three lines radiating out from it in the shape of the Mercedes star. Above are pale grey, rather staring eyes and the sandy swept-back hair. Below is the body, still springy but now at last, at 71, definably old with a tell-tale awkwardness about the chest and hips.

The face, more familiarly youthful, stares out from the cover of *The Ragman's Son*, his autobiography. It was to publicize this that Douglas had brought his dimple to a suite at the Berkeley Hotel, in London.

"Any publishing house wants a story about movie stars, but I always resisted. But one day I was driving to Palm Springs and I picked up this young sailor who was hitchhiking. He looked at me and said: 'Do you know who you are?' I thought that's an interesting question..."

In the room next door his wife, Anne, is having a Sunday morning lie-in and taking a phone call from, for some reason, Lord Hanson. The big star, meanwhile, is getting into his stride.

"I've spent my life in the land of make-believe, starting in three movies a year, producing for a couple of months. You're constantly living a character like *Spartacus* or *Doc Holliday*. Usually I'm talking about these characters. But it's tough talking about a book you wrote about yourself."

The book is certainly a painful read. It is the story of the son of a poor Russian Jewish immigrant who becomes a big movie star and, on the way, beds a large number of women. In the case of Joan Crawford, they never even made it to bed.

Congress occurred in her hallway, an experience Douglas describes as "professional, clinical, lacking in warmth". In the context of



Kirk Douglas: a man with a dimple on his chin... can't be all bad! There are so few of us.

Douglas' attitude to woman — at best Neanderthal — this is something of a laugh.

"I don't find ambition in a woman attractive. It may be attractive in a man. A woman who is so ambitious to be a star, she becomes less attractive to me sexually."

Conquest

And yet: "I accepted a long time ago that women are stronger than men. They can endure pain more than men, they have an intuitive sense. Why must men always be macho?"

Accepting all that, there does seem to be a staggering number of sexual conquests in this book.

"Well, you say staggering. I don't think it was staggering. It was an unanswerable put-down if ever there was one. 'Life is love, death, sex. Sex is a very important part of life — of my life. Nobody could accuse me of living like a monk. I think in many ways sex is not so much desire, more a need, a hunger for affection. But a man is not judged by how many women he engages with. Better to have a relationship with one woman.'"

His wife objected to nothing in the book, but she did point out that he emerged as constantly angry.

"What it revealed to me was that I was always fighting. It made me understand what my

first wife meant when she said: 'Jesus, Doug, you're working so hard to become a star. You are a star!'"

Element

But the key element of self-revelation is the centrality of his father. Douglas was born Issur Danielovitch Demsky. He had six sisters and a father who cared nothing for them and whom Issur defied by flicking hot tea in his face.

"It was the most important thing I ever did in my relationship with my father. I thought: 'I'll die but I gotta do it.'"

But the point was that his father never gave him "a pat on the back". Instead he left him to

a household of women.

"The sum total of this book as far as I am concerned is that I did give myself a pat on the back. The pluses outweigh the minuses and, yes, I liked myself. Underneath I wanted to reveal myself to my children. It comes out of my guts."

His sons, notably Michael, have continued the show business dynasty and Douglas has been careful to give them a number of judicious pats on the back.

He says he is like all fathers — he has had a love-hate relationship with them. "I said to Michael every son wants to kick his father in the balls once — but twice?"

The whole story — from son of an immigrant to fast-living star to wise old timer passing on his hard-earned insights — is almost too cornily Hollywood to be true. But in Hollywood they believe life can be like the movies — grand, heroic and sentimental — and the stars represent an image of perfection, as if Douglas really were clean-limbed, firm-chested *Spartacus*.

In fact, he was in two minds whether to include the revelation of one real imperfection, an intimation that even celluloid people die. For, ever since he collapsed in a restaurant, the heart beneath the firm chest has been assisted by a pacemaker.

"I was momentarily depressed. But it made me angry that an injustice had been done to me. When I was being wheeled down the hospital corridor I was thinking I wanna get the hell out of this movie."

The one thing Douglas always wanted to do was be a Broadway star. He has tried and failed, notably with a production of *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*. It would represent, of course, respectability, an affirmation of real acting rather than mere stardom. But Douglas was made for movies. His jutting chin, fathomless dimple and clenched fist gestures are hammy in the flesh, yet oddly compelling on screen.

"I don't think much," he had said and he does appear to want life to yield its secrets to his sheer muscular effort. For his epitaph he quotes a line from *Cuckoo* — "I tried. Goddamit, I tried."

That's what I tell my sons: don't be afraid to get up and hit the ball. Carpe diem, you have to seize the days. Actors risk always making a fool of themselves. I'm talking to you. It's a risk. I don't know how you'll react. I can't be concerned with that. Everybody has an interpretation. Love me or hate me, just don't be indifferent.

● *The Ragman's Son*, by Kirk Douglas, is published by Simon and Schuster (£14.95).



Douglas with Burt Lancaster, (right) in a recent film. Why must men always be macho? He asks.



Princess Yasmin Khan, daughter of Rita Hayworth and Prince Aly Khan.

Marriage beckons for Princess Yasmin

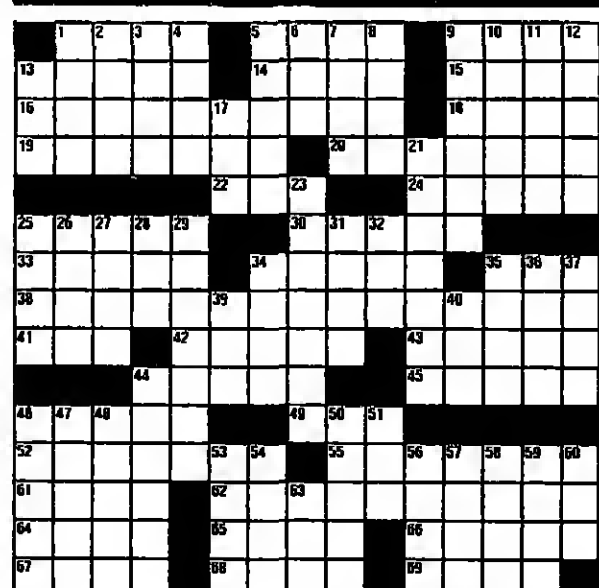
MARRIAGE again beckons for Princess Yasmin Khan, 38, daughter of tragic Hollywood legend Rita Hayworth, and Prince Aly Khan, three years after she became engaged, wed, produced a child and lost a husband, all in the space of six months.

Visiting her half-brother, the Aga Khan, at his Chantilly estate outside Paris this month, "Yas" informed him that she will become Mrs Christopher Jeffries in February — her fiancé is a New York property man who is a couple of years her junior. Based in New York, where she cared for her late mother (a sufferer of an irreversible brain condition known as Alzheimer's disease), Yasmin has a son Andrew from her brief marriage to Eton and Cambridge-educated Greek shipping heir Basil Embiricos, 39.

In fact London-based Embiricos takes no interest in the offspring — Basil is the younger son of Hellenic patriarch Nicholas Embiricos, a resident of Lausanne, and his brother Anthy runs the family business here and spends £250,000 a year on his own polo team which has won all the major trophies.

Until Rita died last year — she starred in 61 films — Yasmin was her mother's guardian and devoted her life to raising funds for the charity. Yasmin's playboy father, Prince Aly Khan was killed in a car crash in Paris.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Geneva
 - playwright
 - Nuisance
 - Hockey shot
 - case
 - Member of the chorus
 - Mendikova
 - Olympics competitor
 - Prasant
 - participate
 - makers
 - Corrigendum
 - See 16 Across
 - Certain pedal
 - Calitoma
 - racetrack
 - Santa
 - Figure in folklore
 - Price of a thought?
 - San Antonio landmark
 - Raccoon's relative
 - Much-used article
 - Place for good sports?
 - Hawaii's Don and others
 - Completes the marathon
 - Notions
 - Distinctive small mountain
 - In want
 - Exploiters
 - Take a — (swim)
 - See 16 Across
 - Mississippi River town
 - Rara —
 - See 16 Across
 - D.C. VIPs
 - Wise to
 - What the crow did
- DOWN
- Upright
 - Shopping bag
 - Certain rugs
 - Monogram in ancient Roma
 - Hellman's "The Children's"
 - Length x width
 - A Virginia
 - Certain violet
 - Inventor
 - Whitney
 - Party for the groom
 - Spivy
 - Climb
 - Veranda, in Hawaii
 - Feeling of dread
 - Manicotti, for one
 - Date
 - Harbor sight
 - Teaching aid for an art class
 - Rented
 - Cut
 - Low-fat spread
 - Southwest
 - Asian country
 - Australian bird
 - Snail or squid
 - Diner sign
 - Highest degree
 - Tariff
 - Cacao, for one
 - Part of a tape recorder
 - Like pie?
 - Posed
 - Song lyric, once
 - Impudent
 - Tsar's edict
 - Foresew a rainy day
 - Considering
 - Vapid
 - NFL score
 - Prepares for publication
 - City on the Truckee
 - Hammer-wielding Norse god
 - pigeon
 - Olympian
 - Ouebec
 - summers
 - Last letter, British style
 - Folding bed
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
- BALE ROOM TESTIS
ALEX ELBA ESTOP
NAIL FLOG ATALE
DISEQUALIBRATED
CUSS IST
AUNTIE MIO EDAM
OROI SITE EOD
DISCOUNTEANCED
LEE NORM BEALE
ELSE AWE NOBLES
STR LAIR
DISCOMBOBULATED
ISLAM ELAS SILO
ELOPE EIRE KNIT
METES ROSA ASSE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
FIND THE RIGHT RETURN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 7
♥ K 6
♦ J 6 3 2
♣ A Q J 8 2

WEST
♠ K J 8 5 4
♥ A 8 4
♦ 7 5
♣ 7 4 3

EAST
♠ Q 6 2
♥ 10 7 3 2
♦ 10 9 8 4
♣ K 6

SOUTH
♠ A 10 3
♥ Q J 9 5
♦ A K Q
♣ 10 9 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠

In chess, they have a term for it — woodpusher. That's a person who simply moves the pieces around without any strategic plan in mind. In bridge, you graduate from cardpusher to bridge player when you realize that every card tells a story.

The auction was simple enough. The one no trump opening described South's hand perfectly and,

since North did not have enough to be interested in slam, his jump to three no trump was textbook.

East put up the queen on his partner's low spade opening, and declarer allowed it to win. He held up the ace again when East continued the suit to his partner's jack. But the king of spades finally forced the ace.

A club finesse lost to East's king, and he had to decide which red suit to switch to. Do you have a choice? That depends entirely on whether your partner is a player or a pusher! If the latter, you have to guess; if the former, partner's king of spades should be a suit-preference signal, asking you to return the higher of the two obvious suits — in this case hearts. (Had partner's entry been in clubs, he would have led his lowest spade to ask for the lower of the two suits.)

The whole hand hinges on what East returns. If he trusts partner's instructions and returns a heart, declarer goes down two tricks. If he shoots back a diamond, declarer has nine tricks — four to each minor and the ace of spades. It's a world of difference!



"I'm putting this one through law school. He'll get you out."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
You will be better able to finish something you have started. You would do well to listen more attentively and to talk less loudly. There is no time to waste. Be reasonable.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
You will be better able to keep your expenditure within reasonable limits. You should keep your feet firmly on the ground. Make sure you do not allow yourself to be distracted. Be polite.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
You should be on the lookout for some warning signs and heed them. You should try not to become involved in something that does not really concern you. It is important that you should make up your mind instead of dithering.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
You should be aware of allowing your emotions to run away with you. A little more common sense is what is needed right now. Make sure you do not spend quite so liberally. Be more tolerant.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
You will be able to do something to intensify the relationship with your partner. An opportunity to learn something new and important should not be missed. You should watch out for someone who is out to deceive you.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
You will tend to be a little on the nervous side. Someone you had always thought was a good friend will turn out to be nothing of the kind. If you are not careful you will spoil something that promises to develop well. Be more observant.
- Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)**
You should be aware of allowing your emotions to run away with you. A little more common sense is what is needed right now. Make sure you do not spend quite so liberally. Be more tolerant.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**
You will have something of an emotional problem but you will also know how to deal with it. Do all you can to avoid complications and deviousness. You should be on the lookout for those who are seeking to deceive you. Be sensible.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
Your persuasive powers will be heightened. You should be a little more sympathetic towards those less lucky than you. There is no point raising change. Instead you should welcome it. Be prudent.
- Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
You will be able to do the right thing in the circumstances. There will be some argument but you will be able to prevent it from becoming acrimonious. You will be able to appreciate the potential in the situation. Be moderate.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
Today you will be able to do something significant and appropriate. You should discuss an idea before you think of applying it. Your personal life will take a turn for the better. Be benevolent.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
You should not be too alarmed by a new turn of events. Nor should you allow others to tell you just what to do. You will be able to have a good laugh at yourself. Be reliable.

Journeying back into the sands of time

In the trail of Lawrence of Arabia

In the last two decades, there have been miracles of transformation in Jordan. A poor country has become a modern state without losing its respect for the traditions of the past. Ancient and modern with a sense of play, a holiday in Jordan will please.

By Andrew Sinclair

IN Jordan, the ruins of Crusader castles and churches stretch all the way up the King's Highway from Aqaba to Amman.

Along its spectacular track through the Great Rift valley, the tribes have migrated and the Armies have marched for five thousand years. The beaches on the Red Sea are confined with floating cork can-balls to keep the bathers safe from the glass-bottomed boats and scuba-divers and water-skiers.

When we were there, Concorde had flown in for the first time, looking like some white pterodactyl and disgorging a hundred tourists on the trail of Lawrence of Arabia.

We take the road up to Lawrence's hide-away in Wadi Rum, which is unearthly, the great gorge with its base of dunes splitting into a wishbone, the red scarps glittering with quartz, their layers melted and congealed, ice-cream folies that have dropped in lies down the lines of rock thrown up by ancient earthquakes.

There is even a waterfall in still pink stone. The desert police at the Beau Geste Fort of the outpost are resplendent in long khaki skirts with crossed red bandoliers, a silver dagger stuck across their navels, and a chequered headcloth.

The King's Highway leads on to Petra with its mile-long entry through the vast cleft of the Siq. "You don't have to be an elephant," the American at the bar told me, "never to for-

get Petra."

Choking in a sandstorm of Arab horses' hoofs, then bursting upon the pink-golden Treasury which heralds the inner city, the long walks down rocky gulches and up a thousand rock-hewn steps to the Deir temple and the meeting of the deep-fissured wadis that slice the restless earth for 20 miles towards the painted desert beyond: the search past bedouin caves where black-robed tattooed women weave goat-hair by hand to the high place of sacrifice overlooking the gorge of the hidden city: these are the most magical journeys across the crumbled works of mankind.

Yes, Petra is a rose red city half as old as time, but it is also a wild palette of flamboyant colours smeared upon a classical design.

Although there are rest houses at all the major sites, Amman is the place to stay for foraging east to the desert castles, north to the black oasis, and west to the River Jordan and the Dead Sea.

Distances are short with a driver who knows his way. I particularly wanted to reach Umm Jaml, an ancient ruin built in black basalt, abandoned like Petra when the caravan routes passed another way. Its grim acres of dark, broken blocks were the end of the world, redeemed only by vain arch or standing pillar from a tumbled Byzantine church.

And there was magic later in the day, when an old bedouin with a golden sword-stick and



The ruins of Petra: 'You don't have to be an elephant, never to forget Petra,' said one awed American tourist.

silver revolver swept away some sand in the ruins of the Arab castle of Qum Hallabet to reveal two superb mosaics, of an ox and a partridge.

At Azraq there is a little fort where Lawrence of Arabia slept, but its walls are so low that a pole vaulter could leap them. The touted desert castles on the return to Amman — Amra and Kharran — are a disappointment, two little

structures with defaced frescoes lost behind barbed wire beside the desert highway.

Towering Not so Saladin's great fortress of Ajlun, set on a towering hill that dominates a fertile valley in the north. And at Umm Quais, the scattered rows of the black seats of the Roman theatre and the street of dark columns overlook the Golan Heights as far as Lake Tiberias

and the Sea of Galilee, bringing back memories of walking on water, of flocks and fishes feeding multitudes, and of ancient and modern wars.

One lost city lies off the river road. Pella is now being excavated and will rival Jerash as a monument to Roman provincial architecture. Peace and contemplation rule in Pella. There is time to stand and stare, and imagine past peoples enjoying the sun and the clear sky, which remain the same for whomsoever stops by there.

Marvel

Jerash is the other marvel of Jordan, its streets of huge columns stretching down an avenue a mile long, its crescent of pillars and its Roman amphitheatre, where Queen Noor holds the splendid festivals of music, dance and theatre that make the restored ruins spring alive each year.

Jordan is a small kingdom no bigger than Britain. Only three million people live there, yet they run a full national service. The airlines and the roads are excellent, the streets are clean, a sense of security and of welcome to the stranger pervades all.

In the last two decades, there have been miracles of transformation by the conscientious king. A poor country has become a modern state without losing its respect for the traditions of the past.

The Concorde passengers, indeed, ended by taking the desert railroad — and the last of the steam engines — to Dera, where Lawrence of Arabia met his ambiguous fate at the hands of the local Turkish bey.

Armed horsemen attacked the train with ornamental rifles. They abducted the beautiful hostess. Then they invited the passengers to champagne and chamber music behind the sand dunes, where waiters stood beside a grand piano flown from Amman.

Ancient and modern with a sense of play, a holiday in Jordan will please.



Looking out over Egypt: Ramesses the Great, on the Nile at Luxor

By Bernice Davison

THE hot and dishevelled American couple summed it all up. "But where are we? Is this Edfu or Esna?" "I dunno honey, look on the factsheet and find today, then you'll know where we are."

"Oh sure... which day is it?"

Not an old joke but truly overheard (it was Edfu). I could feel some sympathy. "By the fourth or fifth day on a Nile cruise your head swims with sights and smells and noises; your sleep is filled with dreams of jackal-headed tour guides waving flags for you to follow."

It is difficult to be balanced about Egypt, which can be fascinating, exciting and infuriating all at once. The sheer scale of the place plays tricks with your normal sense of proportion. The Giza Pyramids outside Cairo are as huge as you expected when seen from close quarters, yet curiously two-dimensional, like giant cardboard cut-outs. The Sphinx is surprisingly small.

The Nile looked insignificant, too, as our flight from Cairo followed the river's course to Aswan, where we joined our cruise boat. Only later, taking a felucca boat to cross to the botanical gardens on Kitchener Island, did the size of the river become apparent. An afternoon acclimatising could be best spent skimming the silky waters on one of these graceful craft. We were lucky: only five of us shared one boat in the great felucca convoy. Some were packed with large tourist groups.

Life

Aswan burst into life in the evening with a splendid bazaar selling little you would want to buy: bicycle hits, galvanised buckets, cheap cotton with absurd prints, plastic King Tutis. Tall and very beautiful Nubian women sashayed through the crowds, bake-houses dispensed delicious-smelling loaves, unmentionable bits of offal were skewered and grilled, sugar cane pressed to make a street drink.

We sought our drink back along the corniche, at the Old Cataract Hotel, ochre-coloured and shuttered, where liveried flunkies will bring you a drink on the cool terrace even after midnight.

In search of the past, it's easy to be uninspired by the present, and the Aswan High Dam next morning left me cold. The dam confines Lake Nasser, where the temple of Philae sits on its new, man-sculpted island, more a monument to the ingenuity of the engineers who moved it than to the ancients who built it.

First culture stop on the Nile itself is the temple at Kom Ombo: the colours of the ceilings, the crocodile well and the wall-pictures of ancient medical equipment are carefully pointed out to each guided party. The Italians follow a plump Indian lady tinking a small golden hand-bell; the Germans plod after a pot-

In the land of the plastic King Tuts

belied Egyptian in turquoise King Tut T-shirt.

The poor Dutch are tacked on to the English group, which results in a curious echo-effect as the bilingual few re-translate the guide's explanations. Groups collide in narrow corridors, the guides jostling for prime position next to their rehearsed hieroglyph translations. The light-skinned flatten themselves against pillars and walls in an attempt to stay in the shade. It's worth 5 or 6 am starts to beat the crowds and heat.

We started early for Edfu. One guide-book described it as out-B-de-Mille-ing Cecil, and it does. The size is not at first apparent: as you leave the boat, you're more concerned about which of the smelly, high-sprung calceches is going to disgorge you next to the touristal shops at the temple gate. Only as you see the first impressive side wall do you get an inkling of the size of the whole structure. The scale is revealed when you realise that the tiny ant-like figures disappearing into a far hole are the 35 Italians you arrived with.

Magnificent Edfu is magnificent. I was more impressed by this than by anything else I saw in Egypt: probably because I'd never heard of it, and had no expectations to fulfill. It lay buried in the sand for centuries, so it is the most complete temple in the country.

Muslims made homes in some exposed parts of the building, scouring out the face of the gods, but were unable to erase the massive carvings which tell the story of Horus's revenge against his uncle Seth for killing his father, Osiris. The hypostyle hall still has its roof, the courtyard all of its pillars, the enormous pylons are intact. The whole is splendid.



The temple of Karnak: difficult to identify without a good map

Next day was The Big One: Valley of Kings, Valley of the Queens, Queen Hatshepsut's temple... maybe the Ramasescum. Such an itinerary called for extra rations: even the Italians, usually sniffy in these matters, each carried two bottles of mineral water as we were ferried across to Luxor's west bank.

The bottles were nearly emptied by 10 am, when the temperature reached 105°F and streams of perspiring culture-seekers shuffled forward to cries of "Avancez les Français... Italiens, Italiens... Deutschers, Deutschers...".

The tombs smelled like sweaty socks, the accumulated BO from the hundreds who had gone before. Each is closed in rotation to air, but this basic precaution is unlikely to be enough to ensure that the fabulous wall-paintings will be there for my grandchildren to see. My favourite wasn't one of the royal tombs at all, but the tiny, exquisite tomb of an artist, in the village of the tomb-makers, with its scenes of everyday life.

Queen Hatshepsut's temple was hard to see. The bits that weren't covered with tourists were covered either with tarpaulin, or looked very recently refurbished, apparently in concrete. Truly original were the naive pictures adorning the walls of the whitewashed houses en route, depicting the Muslim owner's trip to Makka, via boat, plane and coach, all in vivid colours and irregular perspective.

We attempted the temple of Karnak next morning, prior to our departure: a vain hope. The ruins at Karnak are used for the great son at Lumiere performances and are so vast they're difficult to identify without a good map.

'German Alpine Route' — for ethnic Bavaria

By Andreas Schuler

MUNICH (DaD): If you have a soft spot for picturesque, unspoilt, ethnic Bavaria set against the grandiose backdrop of the Alps, if you love romantic royal castles and fancy taking a dip in the clear water of mountain lakes, then spare a thought for the 'German Alpine Route,' inaugurated 50 years ago. Signposted from Lindau, Lake Constance, to Berchtesgaden, south of Munich, it meanders for 800 km (500 miles) round Bavaria's Alpine foothills, an area of great natural beauty.

The road is seldom straight, especially as the route is, fittingly, still "unfinished." There are so many sights to be seen off the main route that visitors have to sidetrack and make constant detours to see. But it is worth the motorist's time and trouble. He will see for himself Neuschwanstein, King Ludwig's "fairy-tale" Alpine castle, and Hohenschwangau and

Linderhof castles, the latter a building strikingly reminiscent of France's roi soleil Louis XIV.

Fed

Lakes such as the Alpsee, Tegernsee and Schliersee, fed by snow that melts in spring, can be toured from the Alpine Route. So can the famous Baroque Wieskirche in Pfaffenwink, in Prien on the Chiemsee. You can book a trip on the old-world Chiemsee railway, powered by a fine old puffing billy of a vintage locomotive. Or you can take a paddle steamer to the unfinished castle on Herrenchiemsee island designed by Ludwig II along the lines of Versailles.

Tourists should plan to spend about five days en route to enjoy the German Alpine Route, one of the finest in Europe, at leisure. There is so much to see, including countless old farmhouses painted in the Bavarian equivalent of the



The 'German Alpine Route' winds its way, often at breathtaking gradients, round the Bavarian Alps. For 50 years it has been one of Germany's finest tourist trails, attracting countless motorists from all over the world with views like this one near Berchtesgaden.

roses and castles style and overgrown with flowers. And few touring motorists can resist the

temptation to park up and go for a walk along the shore of a quiet mountain lake or in the

wildly romantic valley of the upper reaches of Munich's River Isar.

The world's 'best' hotels — on the bottom price rung

By Barbara C. Singleton

PLENTY of articles have been written about the 10 top hotels in the world. But this article is inspired by the 10 best on the bottom price rung. Each not only is clean and comfortable but also offers exceptional hospitality. And all but one are priced at less than \$3 a night, as of this writing. In addition, each offers something distinctive: a spectacular view, live orchids on the table, a library or something even more surprising. Each may also better reflect the flavour of the country than would a luxury hotel.

Hong Kong

For the best hotel view in Hong Kong, try the Youth Hostel on Mt Davis. You may think there are no wide open spaces in this teeming city, but you're in for a surprise. The hillside around this hostel is covered with low shrubs, olean-der, and grass — not buildings. At night, you'll want to save some time just to take in the beauty of the lights of Kowloon, the bay, and the ships.

Established just six years ago, the Youth Hostel still looks fresh and new. The sheets are immaculate, the showers hot. Guests can borrow pans and dishes in the large kitchen

to cook for themselves. But they'll need to set aside 20 minutes each morning for such chores as mopping or wiping tables.

South Korea

The luxurious 1,000-bed Bando Youth Hostel in Seoul surely stretches the meaning of "hostel." Rated the Everest of the rock-bottom group, it costs about \$3 a night. Host to conventions, international sports groups, the Harvard-Radcliffe Symphony on tour, and individual travellers, it provides air-conditioned dormitory accommodations, a gift shop, a garden with umbrella-sheltered tables, and a gracious dining room. Korea has two other similar youth hostels, in Buyeo (with swimming pool), and Kyongju.

Indonesia

If you visit the artists' centre of Ubud on the island of Bali, head down the road to the Monkey Forest. There, next to a wide rice field, you'll find Nani's, a "homestay" among homestays! Its units look as if they belong in a cozy motel, with their long, narrow porches furnished with chairs, tables, and thermoses of tea. Each room has a private bath with a mandi-style, slosh-the-water-over-your-shoulders-with-a-dipper tub. Included in the price is a breakfast of scram-

bled egg sandwiches, papaya, bananas with lime juice, and tea.

Thailand

At the New Guest House in Chiang Mai, you'll find fresh bunches of purple orchids on your table each morning. The walls are festooned with plumes of river grass, handloomed, black-and-red Karen tribal jackets, bamboo fans, and rice paddy hats, not to mention a portrait of the Thai royal family. A menu printed in English, lists foods visitors can enjoy — Muesli with fruit and honey and whole wheat bread with cheese, as well as tom yam, a Thai soup.

From here, three- to 10-day treks can be organised to visit the Akha, Lahu, and Meo peoples.

China

In the northeastern Chinese town of Kashgar, the Seman Hotel is the place to stay. Formerly a Soviet consulate, the hotel has extensive grounds, a curtained dormitory, and tables for better writing and meals. Donkey-drawn carts with bells and flowered canopies wait at the front gateway to drive you to market, where you can buy fruits, vegetables, pilaf, honey ice-cream, and bagels, or lumber, boots, horses, and sheep.

Tibet

On the roof of the world, the Banak Shol Hotel in Lhasa is remarkable for its artistic interior. In this traditional stone structure, many rooms have exposed beams and central pillars painted with bright, stylised Tibetan flowers on a blue background. A wood fire heats water for thermoses and showers. In a small library, one finds books in English and other Western languages. The hotel, the first in Lhasa to be run privately, also rents bicycles and seeks suggestions from guests about how to improve its service.

India

Hassan is the staging area for trips to the exquisitely carved statues of the temples of Belur and Halebidu, and to the Jain centre in the Southwest. Sanman Hotel in Hassan is a rare find. Single rooms with adjoining showers are floored with beautiful slab stonework. A mosquito net drapes the bed like a canopy. A huzzar on the wall is used to signal for "bed tea," a traditional concoction of half milk with cardamom or ginger, to be brought in. The hotel's restaurant is famous for its masala dosa, a soybean crepe with savoury vegetables.

Kenya

Along a narrow walkway in the ancient Swahili trading

town of Lamu (where cars are prohibited), off Kenya's coast, the Salama Lodge offers visitors a chance to star-gaze. Its rooms, like most in Lamu, are two or three metres (6 1/2 to 9 feet) wide, determined by the length of locally grown mangrove poles that span the walls to support the ceiling. At night, society here moves upstairs to open rooftop restaurants that specialise in seafood. At the lodge, you can choose to sleep on the roof. In the morning, calls to prayer ring out from neighbouring mosques in counterpoint to the neighbourly greetings of "Jambo" or "Salama" from the islanders.

Philippines

In the cool mountain village of Bontoc, north of Manila, the hotel of choice is the Happy Home, with a glass wall facing the boulder-strewn Bontoc River and mountains beyond. Within view of the hotel is the town of Samuki, where women weave on back-strap looms in the shade of their houses. Fantastic vegetables are served in steaming howls in the first-floor cafe. The pleasant owner, given encouragement, often joins guests to tell stories about the history and lives of the Bontoc people.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

France keen to put monetary overhaul on the agenda of next year's economic summit

W. Berlin meetings help ease frustration over debt woes

WEST BERLIN, Oct. 2: This week's meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank were predictably low-key, but the annual gathering uncovered some important undercurrents in the world economy, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The meetings dissipated some of the frustration felt in banks, debtor and creditor governments about Third World debt problems and exposed a renewed appetite among some industrial countries for a further overhaul of the international monetary system.

Of these two developments, the improved atmosphere for the Third World debt problem is of more immediate importance.

While demonstrators here protested that the IMF and World Bank brought poverty to the Third World, finance ministers from developing countries made the case for co-operation with the two institutions.

Of symbolic importance was the appearance here of Peruvian Finance Minister Abel Salinas for a meeting with IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus. Though the Wednesday meeting yielded few concrete results, it marked Peru's return to the international financial community after its earlier decision to ignore the IMF and withhold payment of its debts to the fund.

Brazil, which early in 1987 unilaterally suspended interest payments on part of its bank debt, was especially conciliatory. In his speech to the IMF's policy-making Interim Committee, Brazil's Finance Minister Malson Ferreira da Nobrega renounced confrontation as a way of solving the debt problem. "We may be approaching an understanding between debtors and creditors on the basic guidelines for a solution," he said.

David Lomax, group economic adviser of National Westminster Bank PLC of Britain, said Brazil and other Latin American debtors have learned the value of adopting market-oriented economic policies and promoting growth through increased export activity. Mexico "is killing many sacred cows" by liberalising imports, selling state companies and encouraging export industries along the border with the US, Lomax added.

Cost
According to Stanley Fischer, the World Bank's chief economist, Mexico, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Bolivia have achieved real progress in modernising and restructuring their economies. After the key debt-to-export ratio for Western Hemisphere nations doubled between 1980 and 1986, it fell to 341 per

The IMF's forecasts

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Real GDP growth, %	3.4	4.0	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8
Current account, % of GDP	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8
Interest, %	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4
Debt, % of GDP	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5
Debt service, % of GDP	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Debt to exports, %	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Debt to GDP, %	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3
Debt to exports, %	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.7

cent from 352 per cent the year before. The World Bank expects further declines to around 315 per cent this year and 300 per cent in 1989.

But these improvements have been achieved at the cost of low growth rates, prompting complaints about the debt strategy and the drain of financial resources from the debtor countries to the industrialised world.

At a news conference, World Bank President Barber Conable cited the case of Colombia, which has difficulty attracting bank loans despite having fully paid both interest and principal on its debt. "The banks have been unduly conservative" with regard to Colombia, he said.

The recent agreement between Brazil and its leading creditor banks to provide the country with new loans of \$5.2 billion shows that banks can be persuaded to provide fresh money for debtor nations. But a crucial

point considered this week has been the increased tendency of banks to negotiate debt reductions. "Chase has endeavoured to achieve debt reduction when it's in the interests of its shareholders," said Richard Coyle, vice-chairman of Chase Manhattan Corp.

Debt reduction is big business. Brazil has cut its debt about \$8 billion in the past 18 months, according to NatWest's Lomax. But debt reduction is also a controversial issue that divides banks.

In West Germany, Alfred Herrhausen, the chief executive of Deutsche Bank AG, favours debt relief where sovereign borrowers are applying sound economic reform programmes. Herrhausen says such relief sets resources free and so enables countries to increase their creditworthiness.

Walter Seipp, chief executive of Commerzbank AG, is less

enthusiastic. He argues that legally bound contracts should be adhered to. But he concedes that there's nothing wrong with a bank agreeing to a debt-reduction accord provided it is voluntary and market-oriented.

Some observers see the debt problem as becoming still more complex. "It's becoming more clear that the case-by-case approach applies to creditors" as well as debtors, said Sir Kit McMahon, chairman of Midland Bank PLC of Britain.

Imposed
Bankers agree, however, that debtor reduction shouldn't be institutionalised or form part of a "gradual design" imposed by governments. For this reason, many bankers are sceptical of still-vague Japanese government suggestions to set up a guarantee fund at the IMF financed by debtors to back conversion of bank debt into bonds.

Fears also exist that a precedent might be set by this week's so-called Paris Club agreement of major industrialised creditor countries to offer partial debt relief as part of government efforts to ease the financial problems of the poorest African countries.

This week's meetings should have offered some reassurance. The IMF and World Bank policy-making committees agreed debt reduction for mid-

die-income debtors should be negotiated between the banks and their clients without any transfer of risk from the private to the public sectors.

Further easing of the Third World debt problem hinges on continuing robust economic growth in the industrialised world. Although fears of recession that followed last October's stock market crash barely surfaced here, IMF forecasts suggest that the imbalance between the huge US current-account deficit and the surpluses of Japan, West Germany and the newly industrialising economies of Asia will persist for years.

The current-account imbalance is the main reason why no one can be sure that the present long-lived economic recovery will continue. This week also produced early warning signs that some of the US's big trading partners are becoming nervous about accumulating ever-larger stocks of dollar-denominated assets.

France, ever the enthusiast for fixed exchange rates, also is keen to put monetary overhaul on the agenda of next year's world economic summit meeting. Camdessus said on Thursday that there was a "rising ferment" among the IMF member countries about monetary change and that they may soon be willing to address the issue.

Sun Oil eyes refining ventures with other countries

NEW YORK, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Sun Oil Inc., one of the highest independent US refiners, would like to find up to three oil-producing nations as partners to running its US refining and marketing business, its chief financial officer said yesterday. "It could very well be that we may have two or three arrangements," John Neasey told Reuters after speaking to an energy conference. "We like the idea of spreading our risk."

Sun's refining and marketing business is its most lucrative unit, accounting for 83.5 per cent of its \$9.48 billion in 1987 revenues.

Products
Sun markets its refined products under the Sunoco and DX brands in 6,600 petrol stations across North America, and it will become the largest independent US refiner once a \$513 million acquisition of Atlantic Petroleum Co.'s 130,000-barrel-per-day refinery is completed.

"We have a dialogue going now with a number of producing countries at this time," Neasey said. "We're willing to entertain creative and imaginative thoughts about how to structure these."

Neasey declined to identify the countries Sun has talked with, but Sun chairman Robert McClements, Jr. confirmed in July that Nigeria was among the potential partners for a venture.

Decision
Neasey's remarks followed Texaco Inc.'s recent decision to enter an \$800 million oil refining joint venture with Saudi Arabia. But Neasey said: "This is not a panacea for the future."

Probably no more than 10 to 15 per cent of the US refining capacity will be involved in joint ventures," he said.

Such partnerships might simply prop up some inefficient US refineries and add to political tension between OPEC members that have partnerships and those that do not, he said.

Oil co-operation talks
SALALAH, Oman, Oct. 2 (OPECNA): UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Dr. Mana Saeed Al-Nahyan arrived here on Wednesday for a brief visit which will be devoted to discussing co-operation in oil and other economic sectors with Oman.

The minister, who returns home on Friday, told the Omani news agency that he was carrying a special message from President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan for Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed.

Otaiba urged co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers to stabilise the oil market and arrest the current price slide.

Earlier this week, the Omani oil minister was in Abu Dhabi with a message from Sultan Qaboos for the UAE President regarding bilateral relations and the oil market situation.

Devaluation not the answer to Britain's problems: Chancellor

Lawson admits £12b current account deficit

WEST BERLIN, Oct. 2: Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, admitted for the first time on Wednesday that Britain will have a current account deficit of about £12 billion this year and is likely to remain in deficit for some time to come.

He also said that inflation will continue to edge higher over the coming months before being reversed "some time in the course of next year," according to a London daily.

But he made it clear, in a speech in Berlin, that the government will not be panicked into a reversal of its tax-cutting strategy along the lines suggested by the International Monetary Fund. Nor would it allow the pound to be devalued.

Problems
Devaluation was not the answer to Britain's problems, said the Chancellor, making it plain that he would be prepared to intervene on the exchanges to defend the pound if necessary.

The pound could not be "assigned the task of balancing the current account, and it is a mistake to think that the pound should be a lower exchange rate."

The Chancellor also told the delegates at the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank: "First and foremost, the government has responsibility to curb inflation by maintaining a sound monetary policy."

He thought higher interest rates were the right remedy for



Nigel Lawson

automatic response to a deficit should be a lower exchange rate."

The Chancellor also told the delegates at the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank: "First and foremost, the government has responsibility to curb inflation by maintaining a sound monetary policy."

He thought higher interest rates were the right remedy for

Britain. "There are already signs that the higher interest rates are beginning to take the steam out of the housing market."

In a forceful speech designed to kill off any suggestion that Britain may be reverting to type as the sick man of Europe, Lawson said: "By any standards, the United Kingdom's creditworthiness is high."

It could, therefore, expect to attract the foreign capital needed to offset its current account deficits, thus, in effect, buying time for the problem of overheating to be corrected slowly.

At the heart of the Chancellor's strategy is the determination to avoid the violent swings associated with the stop-go policies of the past.

He said he believed Britain's credit-based consumer boom would correct itself over time because "there is a limit to the amount of debt which the private sector can afford."

"Some may be puzzled why the existence of a current account deficit is so newsworthy," Lawson told the IMF. "The truth is that we are prisoners of the past."

He added that previous balance of payments crises were associated with big government debts and bad economic performance at home.

"The present position could not be more different."

According to the Chancellor, the world has changed since the 1960s and 1970s when countries could not remain long in current deficit because of the inability or unwillingness of capital markets to finance them.

But now, with so much "mobile" money around, "the effective constraint is not so much the size of a current account imbalance as a country's overall creditworthiness, in which net overseas assets play an important part."

Assets
In relation to the size of its economy, Britain has a larger stock of net overseas assets than any other industrial country.

Also in Britain's favour, Lawson said, are the new-found efficiency of industry, the ability of the government to balance its books with room to spare and the large official reserves.

Dealers have little appetite for speculative dollar push

LONDON, Oct. 2. (Reuters): The dollar's fortunes are uncertain when trading starts on Monday and dealers said they were cautious about any speculative upwards push because of the threat of Central Bank intervention.

Many dealers believe the dollar, underpinned by high interest rates, could go higher but last Monday an attempt to take the US currency above the 1.89 mark level was hit by dollar selling from eight central banks.

"Central banks seem to have effectively capped the dollar. I feel the market might well want to test the downside next week," currency analyst Tim Fox at Barclays Bank said on Friday.

But others were not so sure.

Strength
Friday's September employment report will be the main market factor to give a signal about the US economy's strength, dealers said.

In New York, the dollar ended at 1.3690 West German marks and 133.75 Japanese yen on Friday compared to 1.3825 and 134.45 on Thursday.

The dollar was driven down by reported remarks by a US Federal Reserve governor and a sharp drop in oil prices. Dealers said cheaper oil, denominated in dollars, would slacken demand for dollars from oil buyers.

Initial news of Fed Governor Martha Seger's remarks that a further rise in the dollar would slow the US economy pushed the dollar down.

Impact
She said, however, the impact would come if there was a "further sharp rise" in the dollar. "Once we saw the whole item, the selling stopped," one US dealer said.

In London another dealer said the fall was temporary.

"Next week, the rates should drag themselves back up to

where they were before... the dollar will probably try and test the high levels again," he said.

Oil prices fell sharply on Friday in New York as signs that Saudi Arabia was increasing production in an already glutted market, sending gold lower. Gold is a hedge against inflation and lower oil prices spell lower inflation.

Lowest
Oil prices have tumbled to their lowest levels in more than two years on OPEC overproduction and traders said values were set to remain weak.

OPEC ministers have raised the possibility of a replay of a 1986 price crash when prices went below \$9 if members refuse to abide by production limits. North Sea Brent crude, the most widely traded grade of crude, fell to \$12.10 a barrel for November loading at Friday's US close, down 55 cents from Thursday's finish.

The inflation rate has been fuelled by the budget deficit, which shot up 163 per cent in the first eight months of 1988 to 1.711 billion lira (\$1.1 billion).

Economic targets for 1989 might be a growth rate of five per cent, 30 billion dollars in foreign trade and a GNP deflator — the broadest measure of inflation — of 60 to 65 per cent, State Plan-

Food shortages likely if farming trends continue

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2. (Reuters): The United States, this year for the first time in memory, will produce less food than it consumes, a sign that it may no longer be a reliable supplier of food to the world, said a study released yesterday.

The shortfall may be a one-year fluke caused by the 1988 drought. But climate trends and a lack of new agricultural technologies could make worldwide food shortages more likely in the future, said the report by the Worldwatch Institute, a Washington-based environmental group.

"It may not be possible to arrest the decline in per capita food production that is now undermining the future of so many poor countries," the report said.

US Agriculture Department projections indicate American grain consumption of 202 million tonnes next year will outpace 1988 production by 11 million tonnes. The United

States will rely on stocks to maintain exports and domestic use.

Worldwide grain production has reached a plateau after increasing 2.6 times between 1950 and 1984, the report said.

Techniques that helped keep grain production apace with a growing population, such as new varieties, irrigation and fertilisers, are near the limits of their ability to increase production, said Worldwatch president Lester Brown.

New ways to achieve more gains have not arrived, Brown said. Biotechnology has not yet provided dramatic crop-yield gains and ideas to dam Himalayan reservoirs are too complex to bring new land into production quickly, he said.

Furthermore, he said, if theories are correct that the earth is warming due to a buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, productive farmland in the United States could dry up before new land in cooler areas is brought into production.

"What about the houses that have no sewers, water, roads or electricity?" he asked. "Will a social explosion result from inflation or if people have no houses?"

Bankers believe the government will try to refinance its large internal debt and Ozal has already proposed spending cuts and collection of unpaid taxes.

Taxes were due to finance 82 per cent of the 1988 budget, but Turkish economists estimate that efficient collection could raise the target figure of 1,500 billion lira (\$1 billion) in tax income by 50 per cent.

The economic daily Dunya said the 1989 budget might raise Value Added Tax on basic goods to five from three per cent and increase the 15 per cent VAT on luxury goods.

World Business Summary

Arab oil exporters to meet in November

KUWAIT, Oct. 2. (Reuters): The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) will hold a biannual meeting on November 20 in Vienna, assuming an OPEC conference begins as planned the following day, an OAPEC spokesman said today. OAPEC groups Algeria, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — all members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries — with Bahrain, Syria and Tunisia. Tunisia's membership has been frozen at its request. The meeting will be the first outside a member country since the group formed in 1968 to promote joint Arab energy projects. The spokesman said OAPEC would discuss its 1989 budget, that of its Baghdad-based Training Institute and Kuwait-based Judicial Tribunal, recent energy studies and ongoing projects. A 1987-91 five-year plan set four priorities — an Arab Energy Data Bank, more co-operation in the exchange of refined products among Arab states, promotion of scientific research and support for OAPEC joint ventures. The organisation, suffering from a cash crunch since world oil prices began to fall in 1982, slashed its 1988 budget by 40 per cent to 1.3 million dinars (\$4.5 million). OPEC is due to discuss renewed weakness in world crude oil markets, where prices have fallen more than \$7 below its official benchmark of \$18 a barrel.

GATT ministers confident of progress in trade control talks

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Trade ministers meeting in Pakistan are confident that their talks on slashing world trade restrictions are set to make progress. US Trade Representative Clayton Yentzer said yesterday. But his optimism was not shared by Australian Trade Negotiations Minister Michael Duffy, who warned that unless real progress was made on agriculture in the next few months the negotiating round would stall. Yentzer said the world economy was largely buoyant and ministers were far more optimistic about tackling trade controls than they were two years ago. Speaking after the opening of informal talks to review progress in GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) negotiations, he said: "The basic consensus from this first session is that people are relatively optimistic about the international economic picture." Yentzer said the 26 trade ministers and the European Economic Community taking part in the talks under the auspices of GATT were clearly committed to concluding a deal by 1990. "Everyone seems committed to stay the course," Duffy, who is a leader of the Cairns Group of 14 developed and developing nations, made a tough speech advocating cuts in farm subsidies and better market access, delegates said. The United States and the European Economic Community are far apart on farm trade, with Washington demanding an end to subsidies by the year 2000 and Brussels refusing to go that far. The Cairns Group is somewhere in between. Pakistan Finance Minister Mahbubul Haq, who is hosting the meeting, said he believed ministers could make substantial gains ahead of a formal mid-term review of the GATT negotiations in Montreal in December.

World economic situation still unstable: Iravani

TEHRAN, Oct. 2. (OPECNA): Despite a considerable increase in the world's economic growth, the international economy remained in an unstable state, according to Iranian Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani. Addressing the joint session of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which concluded in West Berlin on Thursday, he attributed the main reasons for the instability to balance of payments and budget deficits of certain countries, high interest rates and the inflexibility of the economic system in industrialised nations coupled with their protectionist trade policies. He said the situation called for the establishment of a just monetary and economic international order aimed at closing the gap between rich and poor nations, or at least narrowing it. The minister also called on IMF and the World Bank to pay greater attention to the economic problems of developing countries. He said the foreign debt of several developing nations had become "more acute" despite the application of "remedies" over the past few years.

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Marine insurance seen profitable

Transit trade set to grow further

By Lima Al Khalafawi

HOPES for improvement in the volume of business have brightened after the Iran-Iraq ceasefire, according to C.S.S. Khanpuri, general manager of the Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Co. in Kuwait and chairman of the Kuwait Insurance Association.

The transit trade in Kuwait will definitely pick up and the market will gain strength when shipments and re-exports to neighbouring countries are fully resumed, he said.

Re-exports to Iraq are already picking up. The marine insurance companies have not benefited much from the ceasefire yet because only old stocks lying in Kuwait have been re-exported. The marine insurance premiums on these stocks were already paid for when they were shipped from the country of origin to Kuwait.

Measures

New stocks are now being ordered for eventual re-export and then the marine insurance market will reap the benefits, Khanpuri said.

During the Iran-Iraq war, the volume of marine trade decreased by about 25 per cent, he said. Major measures were introduced to offset losses suffered by insurance companies,

and normally these losses can only be offset by an increase in premium rates, Khanpuri said.

However, any losses during the war have already been absorbed by the insurance companies who always maintain sufficient reserves.

Moreover, the war insurance premium was increased during the war and hence accounted for some additional losses.

Khanpuri said that the technical side of business was at no disadvantage compared to local companies. This is because his head office has highly qualified technical staff and many years of experience. Additionally, they have worldwide reinsurance facilities and support.

However, as far as obtaining business from the local market is concerned, local companies have advantages over foreign insurance firms in getting business from local companies and contractors connected with the government and oil companies.

Profitable

He said that the most profitable areas for insurance companies in Kuwait are marine insurance, theft insurance and insurance against dishonesty of employees.

Unless a final peace settlement is reached there may be Iranian objections to removing floating mines from the Gulf waters and



Elias N. Bedewi

to the clearance of the Shatt Al Arab. There is always the possibility of resumption of war, the Technical Consultant of Gulf Insurance Co., Elias N. Bedewi, said.

He added that war risk insurance will remain most probably at much lower prices as long as there exists a request for insurance coverage by ship and/or cargo owners. No insurance coverage is free of charge, but the rate always depends on the severity and frequency of possible losses.

Bedewi said that their premium income as well as their losses have multiplied. Unfortunately, the loss ratio for war risks exceeded 100 per cent. He added that the transit business also deteriorated during the war.

Additionally, some big clients stopped taking war risks coverage altogether when

premium rates became excessively high. Others switched to cheaper markets. But, this is only applicable to war risks.

Continuing, he said that insurance results fluctuate year to year according to earned premium income on the one hand and incurred losses on the other. It is always possible to improve acute fluctuations through reinsurance procedures, but, basically dependence is on loss prevention, proper assessment of risks and fair rating. Time only can offset losses suffered, as insurance depends on the law of large numbers, whether in the number of risks or the number of years.

Conditions

Bedewi said that following the improved conditions at ports and introduction of containers, one could say that marine insurance has become profitable.

He added that economic conditions are expected to improve after the war between Iran and Iraq due to reconstruction. Imports of building materials and by-products should boost their contract business, he said. However, the re-routing of trade via Adaba, Turkey and some other ports in the Gulf, plus expected fierce competition by international carriers and insurers, and lower insurance premiums will turn a rosy dream into a tough reality.

Discussing the government's incentives for insurance companies, Bedewi said that it is hard to describe a government's action as an incentive, especially when it relates to insurance companies. For example, insurers have been trying to push automobile compulsory insurance rates up to compensate for their losses without any success.

Although there was a 60 per cent drop in war risk shipping insurance rates following the ceasefire in the Gulf, London-based underwriters will continue to maintain the rates, according to a London report.

Predictions

The specialist daily Lloyd's List said that despite predictions that war risk insurance rates would rapidly shrink after a ceasefire, most syndicates are adhering to pre-ceasefire premiums.

It added that in the long-term it is believed the market will contract as there is a dramatic fall in insurance premium income. But at the moment, most war-risk underwriters feel there will continue to be an additional premium for vessels visiting the Gulf.

This position is unlikely to change for at least a year due to the threat of mines and the area's general volatility, Lloyd's concluded.

Prices likely to move up

World coffee deal clinched

LONDON, Oct 2. (Reuters). Coffee producers and consumers today agreed on 1989 export quotas to defend prices bringing good news to debt-laden Third World producers but coffee drinkers might face higher prices in the shops.

Delegates said the accord, clinched in the early hours of this morning after 11 days of grueling negotiations, set a global export quota of 56 million bags (60 kg).

Jorio Dauster, chief negotiator for Brazil — the world's biggest producer — said the agreement was good. "A fine compromise, but a difficult one," he told reporters.

Accord

The New International Coffee Organisation accord, between 50 producers and 24 consumers, lasts for a year and will take effect immediately, replacing one which expired on Sept 30.

The ICO seeks to bolster prices of squeezing supply in times of surplus. Export restrictions in the form of quotas should tighten supply and boost average prices towards a range between 120 cents and 140 cents a pound, delegates said.

Average prices prior to the agreement were around 144 cents because of a worldwide coffee glut and traders expect prices to rise on Monday when coffee markets open.

Analysts say higher prices could gradually filter down over the next few months to jars of coffee on supermarket shelves.

Lack of an accord would have sent prices crashing, the delegates said.

Agreement

The agreement should bring relief to Third World debtors such as Brazil, Ivory Coast and Mexico, already financially squeezed by the price collapse in cocoa and oil.

Ivory Coast delegate Alain

Gauze said, "We have (achieved) our objective — to raise prices." He said he was optimistic the quotas would lift prices for Ivory Coast's robusta coffee.

But with a bumper harvest of 40 million bags expected in Brazil next year, some delegates expressed doubts the deal could shore up the market for long. Prospects for Brazil's crop improved this week after rains fell in the coffee growing areas, said Brazilian traders attending the talks.

"But psychologically any sort of agreement is constructive for prices," said analyst Arthur Cherry with London coffee dealers E. D. and F. Man. Dealers echoed this confidence about an initial price recovery, but were uncertain whether the quota would support prices in 1989.

Talks

ICO delegates came to the talks wide apart, with consumers wanting more high quality "mild arabica" coffee and producers wanting higher prices.

The compromise plan was hammered out between Brazil and Colombia, the two biggest producers, and the United States and West Germany, delegates said.

Both sides appeared happy. Jon Rosenbaum, the chief US delegate, said, "I think it is a positive outcome, it's an advance."

Brazil said for producers the new quota regime should stop prices falling, and for consumers it will provide more of the mild coffee they want.

Demand

Consumers pressed for special measures for mild coffee, grown in Colombia, Central America and East Africa, because of heavy demand for this type, and lower demand for robusta produced in West Africa and the Far East.

Dauster said the outcome was a major step towards satisfying consumer demands for more mild coffee. "We have a deal which will allow the world market to say if it needs more arabica coffee," he told journalists.

Cherry said he believed the preferential treatment given to Arabica coffees would narrow the big 30 per cent premium for these beans over less-prized robustas.

The ICO global quota last year was set initially at 58 million bags and cut to 51.5 million by September as prices fell.

Strains

The new coffee accord comes at a time when several commodity agreements face strains.

OPEC is split over how much oil to produce and oil prices are at two-year lows. Talks to revive an ailing cocoa pact collapsed in disarray at the start of September amid disagreements over policy.

The success in coffee could brighten prospects for renewal of the five-year pact when it expires at the end of September next year. The ICO executive director Alexander Beltrao said the success of the coffee agreement, which had looked doubtful given the hostile climate for such agreements.

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Oct 2. (KUNA): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6-5/8	7-1/16
3 months	6-5/8	7
6 months	6-9/16	7
1 year	6-1/2	6-7/8

Daimler-Benz will sponsor safety workshop



Mercedes-Benz General Manager Udo W. Danzer (right) and Karl Albrecht Wokalek, first secretary at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany are shown at a recent business lunch for journalists.

AN International Press Workshop will be held by Daimler-Benz AG in Stuttgart, West Germany, later this month to introduce their automobile and traffic safety programme.

Daimler-Benz AG representatives will explain the progress made in the field of automobile and traffic safety, including active and passive protective systems, accident research, restraint systems and other aspects.

Trip

Six journalists, representing both the English and Arabic press in Kuwait, have been invited to take part in the workshop, which will be held from Oct 10 to 14.

On Saturday, Abdul Rahman Al Bisher & Zaid Al Kazemi, sole

KUWAIT					
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL
NATIONAL BANK	1.090	1.090	1.100	1.090	885000
GULF BANK	0.435	0.435	0.435	0.435	850000
COMMERCIAL BK	0.325	0.325	0.325	0.325	430000
ANLI BANK	0.390	0.390	0.395	0.390	1530000
B.K.M.E	0.395	0.395	0.395	0.395	30000
K.R.E.B.	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.400	20000
BURGAN BANK	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	440000
K.F.HOUSE	0.550	0.550	0.550	0.550	1040000
INVESTMENT SECTOR					
KIT INV. CO.	0.154	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	20000
COM.FACILITIES	0.485	0.490	0.490	0.490	200000
ANLI INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.100	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KWT	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	80000
INSURANCE SECTOR					
KIT INSURANCE	0.730	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	---	---	---	---
ANLI INS. CO.	0.580	---	---	---	---
WARBA INS. CO.	0.440	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR					
KIT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.236	---	---	---	---
UNIT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	400000
WAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.206	---	---	---	---
SALHIAN R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---
KIT PROJECTS	0.091	0.090	0.090	0.090	240000
KIT R.E.I.COM	0.000	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR					
KIT IND. CO.	0.540	---	---	---	---
KIT M.P. IND.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	20000
KIT CEMENT CO.	0.255	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.415	---	---	---	---
M.A.N.T. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.100	1.110	1.110	1.090	260000
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.206	0.210	0.210	0.208	80000
COM.MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---
K.S.N. REP. CO.	0.044	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR					
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---
KIT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.166	---	---	---	---
COM.MKT. CMPLX.	0.018	---	---	---	---
MOBILE TELE.	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	150000
KIT COMPUTER	0.178	---	---	---	---
FOOD SECTOR					
LIVESTOCK I.T.	0.232	0.230	0.230	0.230	80000
UNTD FISHFRIES	0.154	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.226	---	---	---	---
KIT FOODS	0.315	---	---	---	---
ASRI FOOD PRO.	0.150	---	---	---	---
NON-KIT SECTOR					
BHW.INTER.BK	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.067	40000
BHW.EAST.BK	0.066	---	---	---	---
UNTD.GULF BK	0.040	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.106	0.104	0.106	0.104	2340000
A.G.I.V. CORP	0.035	---	---	---	---
FIRST.GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.	0.071	---	---	---	---
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE					
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET					
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL
PEARL INV. CO.	0.098	---	---	---	---
GULF INV. CO.	0.041	---	---	---	---
GULF INTL INS	0.009	---	---	---	---
ARAB INT CO.	0.055	---	---	---	---
SHARAH INS	0.000	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS	0.070	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR					
B-SULF MEXICAL	0.027	---	---	---	---
C.R.K. WHITE CEMENT	0.023	---	---	---	---
D-AMMAN CEMENT	0.007	---	---	---	---
F-ALJAHAN CEMENT	0.008	---	---	---	---
F-AMMAN CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---
G-SULF CEMENT	0.016	---	---	---	---
H-AMMAN CEMENT	0.020	---	---	---	---

KD deposit rates ease in quiet trade

KUWAIT, Oct 2. (Reuters). Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates slipped today in quiet trade after the Central Bank lent fixed-period funds to the market on Saturday.

Dealers said there was no new Central Bank intervention today with overnight trading as low as three per cent from eight and nine per cent on Saturday.

Rates have firmed in recent weeks as banks built up long dollar positions, drying up dinar liquidity, as the dinar slipped against the dollar.

Rate

As usual on Sundays, the Central Bank kept its dinar exchange rate unchanged from Saturday at 0.2886979 to the dollar, while commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.28881/87.

The lack of change in the exchange rate contributed to the

quiet tone, with no reported deals outside the short dates. Tomorrow's funds traded at 6-1/2 and 5-1/2 per cent, around Saturday levels.

The fixed periods were marked around 1/8 point below Saturday at seven, 6-1/2 per cent for the one-month and 6-7/8, 1/2 per cent for the two through six-month maturities.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits were steady in a virtually dead market today which saw little demand due to the European weekend when many major offshore players are absent.

Dealers said rates for fixed period and short-dated funds were unchanged from Saturday's closing levels. Gulf banks are closed on Friday, the Muslim weekend.

Cut in inflation flayed

Argentina's stability plan holds firm

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Oct 2. (UPI). Argentina has slashed its runaway inflation rate by two thirds in a drastic cutback plan that brought screams of protest from just about everybody — labour unions, businessmen and consumers.

Yet foreign bankers are not convinced that President Raul Alfonsin's latest stabilisation programme, known as the "spring plan," will remain effective long enough to reduce Argentina's high-risk investment rating.

The Spring Plan, launched on Aug 3 and named for the Southern Hemisphere season, consisted of 30 per cent hikes in public service rates, such as electricity and telephones, a major devaluation, a termination in price controls, a rise in the import prices through changes in central bank money operations and a voluntary price freeze.

As expected, inflation soared to 27.6 per cent for the month of August — an annual rate of 321 per cent. Merchants ignored voluntary price restraints and public service price hikes swelled the cost of living index.

Then consumers stopped buying and the price hikes were slowed.

Roberto Frenkel, a government undersecretary and special economic adviser, says September's inflation will be about 11 per cent, a drop of nearly two thirds compared to August.

The Spring Plan "began with very little credibility, but confidence (in it) is growing," he said in an interview.

The free market dollar, bellwether of investor confidence in the Argentine economy, has remained relatively stable for two months, trading at 14.62 australes to one on Sept 28 compared to 13.72 on Aug 10.

But cutbacks have been painful. The General Labour Confederation, calling the anti-inflation plan "recessive," declared a general strike on Sept 11, setting off violent demonstrations in downtown Buenos Aires that destroyed shop windows and the interior of city hall.

Plans

Businessmen complain bitterly about government plans to lower customs duties, a move designed to make home industries more efficient. Thousands of irate consumers descended on state electricity company offices claiming their rates were raised anywhere from 200 to 300 per cent instead of 30 per cent.

The Spring Plan got an important endorsement, nevertheless, from World Bank president Barber Conable. He announced on Sept 25 loans to Argentina totalling \$1.2 billion, breaking with the usual practice of waiting for the end of Argentina's current negotiations for a stand-by loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund, which sets fiscal targets for economic reforms.

With a foreign debt of \$56 billion, Argentina is believed to be \$1.2 billion behind in debt payments this year. Neither it nor the private banks want to call the arrears a default for fear that it will only make negotiations tougher.

"It's a cynical game," said an international banker in Buenos Aires. "The arrears are there, but nobody wants to call it what it is. It just sits there while we talk."

Creditors

Argentina is asking international creditors for \$3 billion in loans this year, but private bankers have flinched. They say Argentina should put up more money from its expected \$3 billion foreign trade surplus. They also argue that a Peronist government may be elected in May, creating even more uncertainty about Argentina's stability.

Peronist presidential candidate Carlos Raul Menem repeatedly has said that if he is elected "not one liquid dollar will leave the country." But he has recently moderated his rhetoric, saying an agreement with foreign creditors and a Peronist government is possible.

Frenkel said creditors must negotiate with Argentina and over 100 other countries as they are now, not with a hypothetical new government.

"Otherwise nothing can be negotiated," he said.

If the anti-inflation plan works, Eduardo Angeloz, candidate of Alfonsin's ruling radical Civic Union Party, will have a plus for his election campaign.

But political observers expect inflationary pressures to peak in the two months prior to elections, when the government will be under pressure to spend to satisfy constituencies.

Market remains subdued

KARACHI, Oct 2. Stocks again turned in a subdued performance yesterday as leading investors kept to sidelines fundamentals. Volume showed a modest rise but remained on the lower side of the bottom, according to a Karachi daily.

Trading in the forward counter was highlighted by a bullish bolla in ICI Pakistan, which together with the overnight gain rose by a limit-gain of 75 paise above the last clearing rate at Rs 46.25 just 45 minutes before the final bell. After the settlement of bolla dues, it finished at the day's best bid.

Its counterpart in the ready section also showed a sympathetic increase.

Activity

The activity in the ready section, however, remained subdued as leading investors kept to the sidelines. It thus fell to the lot of jobbers, short-term dealers to keep the wheel moving, which they did by indulging in alternate bouts of buying and selling.

There were no instances of an aggressive buying or massive activity even in the current favourites as investors awaited new developments both on the political and corporate fronts. Buying support did emerge at dips, it did not generate sympathetic buying from any quarter.

Institutional support was

active on a number of counters, particularly dividend announcements were due, but there was no other supporting factor which could sustain the attempted rallies.

The interesting feature was that most of the textile and sugar shares came in for modest reports on reports of higher earnings and more than twice tried to accelerate the pace of recovery. But because of lack of follow-up support, it faltered half way.

Floor brokers said that the current downward drift seemed to be overdue. Market's highly oversold position, they said, need a correction, which could come next week in the form of shortcovering.

They also expect some positive background news next week, which could evoke a good of short-covering both on technical grounds and in the form of new buying.

Analysts said the market seemed to have digested most of the bearish factors and now it has no option but to rise from its low levels. It might not respond to its technical requirements in a big way, it was certain that the

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SHAMED STAR LEAVES BIGGEST MARK ON 1988 OLYMPICS

Johnson scandal scars Seoul Games

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): New heroes emerged to etch their names in sporting history but the Olympian who made the biggest mark on the 1988 Games was one who left without a medal.

The doping scandal surrounding Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson overshadowed every record-breaking feat in what was to have been history's biggest and best Olympics.

The eager anticipation of a titanic clash between the sporting superpowers of both East and West for the first time at the Summer Olympics in 12 years turned into deep disappointment with the revelation that the biggest star of them all was a cheat.

Earned

Sport itself became the victim of an exaggerated focus on a single event, the men's 100 metres showdown between Johnson and Carl Lewis, the American who had already earned his own page in the Olympic record books by winning four gold medals in Los Angeles four years ago.

Johnson's astonishing 9.79-second surge to victory should have been the highlight of the Games. Instead it turned into an Olympic nightmare when he was stripped of his gold medal for taking steroids.

Deprived of its superstar, the Games became the story of athletes who just failed to become sporting greats.

Lewis himself, given a second chance by Johnson's misadventure, won four golds again, lost out to training partner Joe DeLoach in the 200 metres and had to be content with, by his standards, a mere two golds and

one silver after the United States were disqualified in the sprint relay.

Florence Griffith-Joyner, in a class of her own in the women's sprints, smashed the 200 metres world record twice within two hours but just failed to match Fanny Blankers-Koen's distinction of winning four athletics golds in the 1948 Games.

With three titles already secured, Griffith-Joyner ran the anchor leg for the United States in the 4x400 metres relay but could not catch the Soviet Union's Olga Bryzgina, gold medalist in the individual race over the distance, and settled for silver.

In the Olympic swimming pool, lofty American Matt Biondi towered over the opposition in every respect but could not quite equal compatriot Mark Spitz's 1972 record of seven golds. However, he was more than happy to leave with five titles and seven medals in all.

Kristin Otto, East Germany's queen of the pool, went one better by becoming the first woman to net six golds in one Olympics. But she had to share the limelight with petite American Janet Evans who had more stamina and endurance than her hulking rivals as she won three long distance golds.

Vladimir Salnikov provided perhaps the most nostalgic moment of the Games when he won the 1,500 metres title at the ripe old age of 28, eight years after gaining two golds back at home in the Moscow Olympics.

His achievement was beyond the reach of a clutch of track and field stars who arrived in Seoul



Laser beams dance around the Olympic flame during the closing ceremonies. (Reuters wirephoto)

with awesome credentials and departed looking distinctly human.

For reasons of advancing age or life-time injury, Ed Moses, Daley Thompson, Said Aouita and Steve Cram all had to accept their reputations gave them no divine right to a gold medal.

A new generation of Africans brought the track events to life, winning every men's race from the 800 metres upwards. Virtually unknowns like 10,000 metres winner Ibrahim Bouhail of Morocco along with Paul Ereng and Peter Ronn of Kenya,

victors in the prestigious 800 and 1,500 metres, were among the emerging youngsters to take unexpected gold medals.

Griffith-Joyner may have stolen the show in the women's events but her sister-in-law, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, helped to keep it in the family, winning gold in the long jump and heptathlon, breaking the world record in the latter for good measure.

Tennis returned to the Olympics after an absence of 64 years, giving West German Steffi Graf the chance to complete a unique

Golden Slam. She added the Olympic title to her sweep of the season's four Grand Slam events.

With most of the best male players missing, Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia gained his first major title.

Gymnastics for once failed to produce a true personality in the wake of Olga Korbut, Nadia Comaneci and Mary Lou Retton, with the Soviet Union sweeping most of the medals.

Yelena Shushunova took the women's all-around title but it was the little Romanian Daniela

Silvas who won most hearts as she took three individual golds. Basketball provided one of the most spectacular upsets with the Soviet Union men's team repeated their shock 1972 victory over the United States. They did it in the semifinal and went on to gold by beating Yugoslavia, having deprived the US of the title for only the second time.

Added

Weightlifting was dominated by drug scandals with five lifters caught, including three medalists, and Bulgaria and Hungary swiftly pulled out to avoid further trouble. But on the brighter side, there were 11 world records, six from Bulgarian defector Naim Suleymanoglu who won the featherweight class for Turkey.

Christa Luding of East Germany made Olympic history in the cycling when she became the first person to gain medals at both the Summer and Winter Games in the same year. Her silver in the women's sprint added to the gold and silver she won in Calgary as a speedskater.

Boxing, tarnished by a riot in the first week when a South Korean lost on a close decision, ended with another ringside rumour over a verdict.

South Korean light-middleweight Park Si-Hun was given a split decision over American Roy Jones, a result condemned as unfair by watching President of the International Amateur Boxing Association, Anwar Chowdhry.

It was one of 12 gold medals won by the host nation in judo, table tennis, archery, wrestling and handball as well as boxing.

Did you hear the one about...?

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): "Thank God for that." So said Cook Islands boxer Richard Pitman, after innocently tipping Cubans for the gold, when he was told Cuba announced long ago it was boycotting the Seoul Games.

Some things said at the Olympics were just as memorable as the sport feats they accompanied. Boxing was colourful.

Enraged South Korean fans invaded the ring after a local hope was eliminated on points and gave referee Keith Walker a few bruises and the scare of his life.

"I'm getting on the first plane back to New Zealand," said Walker. He did.

Bad

American boxer Ray Mercer demolished Korean hope Baik Hyun-Man. "The Hulk," in the heavyweight final, "I knew he would try to take me out in the first round. But his gas tank wasn't that full," Mercer said.

Mercer's team mate Kellie Banks, medal hope and world amateur featherweight champion, was knocked out by unfancied Dutchman Regilio Tuur in the first round of their early bout.

"People had said it was a bad draw for me, but it turned out to be bad for him," was Tuur's succinct comment.

China's Liu Dang was floored by Moroccan Abdelhak Achik in the first round of their featherweight quarterfinal. He lay motionless for six seconds before jumping up. But fighting was stopped.

"I was only resting," said a disappointed Liu afterwards.

Luise Ritter, who took the women's high jump with a sizzling 2.05-metre leap, talked like the true Texan she is. "I don't think I did a whole lot right until I jumped 2.03. But that was a legit no-banger jump."

Reaped

The scandal around banned 100 metres gold medalist Ben Johnson reaped some stark language.

"Ben, how could you," a Canadian radio broadcaster said as the news broke.

When he was still basking in glory after winning the race in world record time, Johnson said: "The gold medal is the most important thing. Anybody can break a world record but the gold medal is mine."

On the flight home to Canada, he denied taking drugs, adding: "I don't care. It's not the only thing in life to win a gold medal."

In Jamaica, where Johnson was born, Sports Minister Ed Bartlett invited him to "come home and relax."

"We are not saying that you have done wrong or you are an outcast. We are saying that you have done wrong but you are still our son."

His team mates were less forgiving. A note on their notice board said: "From hero to zero in 9.79 seconds."

British Olympic Association chairman Charles Palmer was more sanguine about the doping test that caught judo bronze medalist Kenneth Brown.

"He won't be going home in disgrace, he will be going home with his bottom smacked."

American diving star Greg Louganis retained his two diving golds despite cutting his head open as he hit the board.

Love

"I just reminded myself that no matter what happened my mother was still going to love me, and that makes it easier," Louganis said after clinching his second gold.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has several royals among its members. Reporters at the IOC headquarters hotel sometimes had trouble telling one from another.

"Excuse me sir, are you Prince de Merode," one journalist, looking for Prince Alexandre de Merode of Belgium, head of the IOC medical commission, asked a man of regal bearing.

"You want to know if I'm Prince de Merode?" came the reply. "No, I'm not Prince de Merode. I'm the king of Greece."

British modern pentathlon manager Ron Bright was pleased with Army Lieutenant Dominic Mahony, who placed third in his first run after falling off a horse a month earlier.

Of the debonair Mahony, an officer in the elite Life Guards, Bright said:

Expected

"He was magnificent. But he is an officer and a gentleman, so I expected it."

There were some puzzling ones.

"I am very happy," said Argentine soccer coach Carlos Paez after his team were knocked out by Brazil in the quarterfinals.

Chinese world table tennis champion Jiang Jialing, in a comment on the sickness of fate, said after Sweden's Eric Lindh knocked him out in the quarterfinals:

"I tried my best but the ball is round."

Third World faces tough hurdles

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): For the Third World, the Seoul Olympics provided a grim reminder that poverty and social customs remain tough hurdles in the race to make champions.

The countries of Asia, South America and Africa account for about 80 per cent of the world's five billion people but took home only 29 golds — a meagre 12 per cent of the total.

"It is not a gap, but a chasm which separates the Third World from the rest. There was a wide disparity in standards," said International Olympic Committee member Ashwin Kumar.

There were exceptions.

Powerful China's Gao Min gracefully sliced through the air to win the women's springboard, Kenya's John Ngugi loped majestically away from a powerful field for the men's 5,000 metres gold and Surinam's Anthony Nesty streaked past American swimmer Matt Biondi to win the 100 metres butterfly.

But they were just cameo at the 16-day Games where the Soviet Union, East Germany and the United States grabbed 53 per cent of the 237 gold medals at stake.

Kumar, an Indian, said he could see no change until Third

World countries found ways to spot and develop young talent.

"But at present in the Third World, the priority before the governments is to feed the poor, not build an infrastructure to produce champion sportsmen," Kumar said.

His own country is a perfect example.

The world's second most populous country after China, India did not win a single medal in Seoul. All eight of the country's Olympic golds have been in men's hockey — a sport that India won in Helsinki in 1952.

China fared better with four golds but fell far short of their Los Angeles haul of 15, a failure bitterly criticised in Chinese newspapers.

"A dark cloud crosses our hearts — we have a psychological problem," said Peking's People's Daily.

China were toppled as Asia's top sporting power by host South Korea, who won 12 golds to finish fourth in the overall medals table.

Social and religious customs play a part in holding back sports development in parts of the Third World.

The Middle East performed poorly — only Iran won a medal

— a fact the president of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Sheikh Salman Al-Humaid Al-Sabah, blames on a lack of sporting history.

"Twenty years ago, we had no sport. It will take us 10 years to reach world levels," he said.

Most Arab countries where Islamic custom bans women from public sport sent only male teams.

The women of Africa and Asia have similar problems.

"I don't have a coach. They don't have a training centre like the men," said Kenya's top woman athlete, Rose Tata-Muya.

But India's six-strong track and field team were all women. The men were not good enough to qualify at the Olympic trials.

India's P. T. Usha, Asian 400 metre and 400 metre hurdles champion for the past four years, said she was lucky to have parents who let her take up sport.

"When we get married, further participation in sport depends on the husbands," she said.

Kumar also said parental attitudes to sport were important in developing countries.

"Track and field are not careers that parents would want their children to pursue simply because one cannot earn a living

from them," he said.

Developing countries lack training facilities and access to the latest sports medicine and research.

Surinam has only one Olympic-sized pool. Its swimming hero Nesty went to the United States to train.

Swimmer Silvia Poll of Costa Rica, who won a silver in the 200 metres freestyle, needed her mother's help to finance the trip to Seoul.

Defending men's hockey champions Pakistan blamed a lack of artificial playing surfaces for their failure to reach an Olympic semifinal for the first time in 40 years.

Kenya has beaten the odds by concentration on events such as distance running, which need few training facilities.

Its athletes took the gold and silver medals in the 3,000 metres steeplechase, and the gold in the 800 metres, 1,500 and 5,000.

But the rest of the Third World can draw some comfort from John Holt, secretary-general of the International Amateur Athletics Federation.

Its athletes came to the Games with the pure Olympic idea of taking part, not winning, he said.

"They are the last pure athletes."

Bordin wins marathon

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Italian Gelindo Bordin surged to the Olympic men's marathon title today when he took the lead with just under three km left and pulled away to win in two hours 10 minutes, 32 seconds.

The European champion was one of a bunch of six who broke from the remainder of the 124-strong field at the 32 km mark of the 42.195-km race.

With four km to run, Bordin was third behind Djibouti's Ahmed Salah and Kenya's world champion Douglas Wakihuri.

Picked

But just as he did in the 1986 European championships, the powerful Italian picked up the pace to overhaul first Wakihuri and then the fading Salah.

Wakihuri recovered to take second place in 2:10:47 with Salah third in 2:10:59.

Bordin kissed the track after finishing and was then hugged by International Amateur Athletic Federation president and compatriot Primo Nebiolo.

"It was like a war out there," Bordin told a television interviewer.

Bordin was the second Italian to cross the line first in an Olympic marathon.

pic marathon but the first to win the gold medal.

In 1908 in London, Dorando Pietri finished first but had collapsed after an official stopped him going down a fifth time and carried him across the line.

Salah, asked what had happened when he was overtaken by Bordin, said: "I didn't give up but I couldn't accelerate because I had problems with my shoes."

He did not say what was wrong with his shoes but he appeared to have heavily blistered feet.

"I don't underestimate my opponents but I had trained well and I thought I could win. Without these shoes I could have done."

Wakihuri said the race had not been as fast as predicted because of the very hard concrete.

The Kenyan was asked why he had kept looking behind. "I knew he (Bordin) was strong. I was looking behind because I knew he was using me as his pacemaker."

The bearded Bordin, 29, told reporters the win had justified all his hard training. "I didn't believe I had won until the last 100 metres," he said.



Durand (centre), Best (left) and Huck after receiving their medals. (Reuters wirephoto)

Boxing tourney ends in controversy

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): South Korea lifted two Olympic boxing golds today but light-middleweight Park Si-Hun's medal was tarnished by a row surrounding his 3-2 points win over American Roy Jones.

"I'm not normally outspoken. But I can only use one word for the decision...disgraceful," said spectating British referee Rod Robertson.

Pounding

Jones looked a clear winner — to everyone but the home fans and three of the judges — after pounding the local fighter for virtually all of the light-middleweight final.

Anwar Chowdhry, president of the International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA),

also described the decision as unfair in a television interview.

The scoring discrepancy indicated the source of the dispute.

The Russian and Hungarian judges gave Jones the victory by a clear four points.

The Uruguayan and Moroccan judges gave the Korean one point ahead. The Ugandan judge scored it even but voted in favour of Park.

The American team was outraged and chief coach Ken Adams said he saw South Korean officials approach one of the judges.

South Korean boxing chief Kim Seung-Youn denied the decision was unfair.

As if in consolation, Jones won the prestigious Val Barker Trophy awarded by AIBA to the

outstanding boxer of the Olympics.

The row overshadowed the fine performance by the other South Korean, flyweight (51 kg) Kim Kwang-Sun, who knelt and kissed the canvas after his gutsy 4-1 points victory over East Germany's Andreas Tewes.

Season

Light-heavyweight (81 kg) Andrew Maynard scored the only win of the three Americans fighting in the second and last session of the finals. He outpointed Nurmagomed Shanavazov of the Soviet Union 5-0.

East Germany, with wins yesterday, and South Korea each lifted two golds and the others were shared between Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, Canada, Italy and Kenya.

Louganis retires from diving

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Greg Louganis, the world's greatest diver, announced his retirement today from the sport he transformed into an art.

Louganis, who is to become an actor and play his first post-Olympic film role in a zany comedy called "Stiff", made the announcement when given the US Olympic Spirit Award.

He was one of the stars of the Games, winning the springboard gold after cracking his head on the board and producing a spectacular last dive to land the high-board title.

The shy and unassuming 28-year-old, who soared like an eagle and dived like a swallow, said that winning in Seoul was all about handling pressure.

"We wish to completely liberate sport from the negative influence of doping," Gramov said.

US 400 metres hurdler Edwin Moses and Soviet Olympic pole vault champion Sergei Bubka will be the voice of the athletes at the meeting, which will recommend the introduction of random dope testing in training.

The superpowers said their aim was to swap drug testing teams and laboratory data, conduct joint research, alert athletes to the dangers of drugs and agree on standardised penalties for offenders.

"It is our mutual intention to extend this initiative to all countries and all international federations," they said in a joint statement at the end of the Seoul Games, where 10 athletes have been kicked out for taking drugs.

Helmick said the superpower initiative had been launched

Durand clinches gold

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Pierre Durand of France rode Jappeloup to the showjumping gold medal at the Seoul Olympics today and admitted to just a "tiny" unsporting thought in the agonising decisive moments.

The Frenchman, who fulfilled the lost promise of Los Angeles when he and Jappeloup failed to win the title as expected, edged out West Germany's Karsten Huck on Nepomuk with two near-flawless rounds in the Olympic stadium.

Added

Huck took a clear round into the final stage, while Durand had 0.25 seconds time penalty. The Frenchman added just a 0.75 time penalty in the last round and then paced anxiously along the track beside the arena as the bespectacled Huck jumped last.

The German looked to be clear, having jumped the most

demanding of the 10 jumps — a triple and a deceptive uneven flat jump called the waves, and Durand feared the worst.

"It may be unsporting, but my dearest wish when Huck went into the last round was that he would hit a fence," he said later.

Huck obliged, catching the penultimate barred fence on the rise and Durand leapt in the air in delight. He was carried from the stadium on the shoulders of his coaches.

Huck suffered further disappointment in the jump-off for silver with Greg Best of the United States on Gem Twist, losing by nine seconds to take the bronze.

Durand, beaming with delight as the gold was hung round his neck had a final gesture for his 13-year-old horse. He tied the medal to its leather chest strap for his victory lap.

Hockey sees new champions

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): Hockey saw its biggest shake-up at the Seoul Olympics with new champions in both the men's and women's competitions.

Neither of the game's Asian heavyweights, India and Pakistan, reached the men's semifinals.

The men's tournament was a triumph for Europe. Britain took the gold medal. West Germany the silver and the Netherlands the bronze.

Britain have never looked back since winning a bronze medal at the Los Angeles Olympics after gaining a place only because the Soviet Union boycotted the Games.

Outstanding

Most of their players collected a silver medal with England at the 1986 World Cup, and now their first Olympic gold since England took the title in 1908 and 1920.

They had three of the competition's outstanding players in goalkeeper Ian Taylor, right winger Stephen Batchelor and centre forward Sean Kerly.

Pakistan, the defending champions, and India, eight times Olympic champions, did show improvement after their dismal 1986 World Cup. Both came close to making semifinals, eventually finishing fifth and sixth.

They may well feel that they would have done better if the umpires had been less tolerant of physical tactics.

Top goalscorer in the men's tournament with nine goals was Floris Bovelander, the Dutch penalty corner expert. His two in the bronze medal match relegated the top seeds, Australia to fourth place.

The Australian women, like the British men, improved one place on their seeding to claim their first gold. They improved after some early mishaps and beat the Netherlands, the favourites, in the semifinals.

The revelations of the women's competition were the athletic South Koreans who took the silver medal and had forward Lim Kyu-Sook named player of the tournament.

Their pulsating 5-5 draw with Australia in a preliminary round match will long remain in the memory.

The Netherlands were the only country to win medals in both competitions, but their bronze in the women's tournament must be regarded as a failure for the nation which has dominated women's hockey for six years.

They had the top women's scorer in Lisanne Lejeune, their elegant sweeper back. She equalled the Olympic scoring record with eight goals.

SEOUL, Oct. 2, (Reuters): The United States came back from a set down against the Soviet Union to win the men's volleyball gold medal at the Olympics today.

The 13-15 15-10 15-4 15-8 victory came from a combination of tight defence and aggressive spiking, led by Steve Timmons with 40 kills.

Veteran Soviet defender Viatcheslav Zaitsev, who came out of retirement to play in Seoul, failed to blunt the aggression of Timmons and Jeff Stork.

At the end of an Olympic Games forever tainted by the disqualification of Canada's Ben Johnson, the National Olympic Committee (NOC) presidents of the two superpowers said confidence had to be restored to the tarnished world of sport.

Confidence

Soviet NOC chief Marat Gramov said sport

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Drug cheats

SEOUL, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Barcelona, host of the 1992 Olympics, has set up the anti-doping laboratory it hopes will root out the drug cheats who shocked the Seoul Games, the Spanish city's mayor Pasqual Maragall said today. Maragall said a special anti-doping laboratory had been built next to the site of the Olympic athletes' village. Spao also has an anti-doping laboratory in Madrid which is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Leon Spinks

ROCHESTER, Hills, Michigan, Oct. 2. (AP): Former world heavyweight boxing champion Leon Spinks pleaded no contest to a charge of impaired driving. Spinks, 35, entered the plea on Friday in a district court. No sentencing date was set.

Cycle race

CORK, Ireland, Oct. 2. (AP): Australian Phil Anderson won the Shannon-Cork stage of 112 miles yesterday, in the Nissan Classic Tour of Ireland cycle race.

Penguins win

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 2. (UPI): Mario Lemieux scored two short-handed goals and Rick Tabaracci and Steve Guenette combined to stop 27 shots last night, and the Pittsburgh Penguins held on for a 5-4 pre-season victory over the Hartford Whalers.

Duran triumphs

CHICAGO, Oct. 2. (UPI): Roberto Duran won a 10 round split decision over Jeff Lanas yesterday in a tuneup for Duran's planned WBC middleweight title bout against title holder Iran Barkley. Duran, 37, came into the ring weighing 166 pounds and gave away four inches in height and 11 years to his younger opponent.

French soccer

PARIS, Oct. 2. (Reuters): French First Division soccer results of games played yesterday:

Saint-Etienne	2	Toulon	1
Strasbourg	1	Caen	2
Marseille	3	Metz	1
Le Mans	2	Nantes	1
Sochaux	3	Auxerre	1
Nice	3	PSG	1
Matras Racing	4	Bordeaux	1
Laval	0	Nantes	1
Toulouse	0	Lille	1
Montpellier	4	Monaco	2

Southern Open

COLUMBUS, Ga., Oct. 2. (Reuters): Dave Barr of Canada fired a nine-under-par 61 yesterday to take a one-shot lead after three rounds of the \$400,000 Southern Open golf tournament. Barr had a 201 total going into today's final round after his course record-equaling 61.

Sicilian tennis

PALERMO, Sicily, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Top seed Mats Wilander of Sweden won the Sicilian international tennis tournament today, beating compatriot Kent Carlsson, seeded two, 6-1 3-6 6-4 in the final.

College football

NEW YORK, Oct. 2. (AP): How the Associated Press top twenty college football teams fared this week:

1. Miami, Florida (4-0-0) beat Missouri 55-0. Next: Oct 15 at No. 3 Notre Dame.
2. University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) (4-0-0) beat No. 16 Washington 24-17. Next: vs Oregon State.
3. Southern California (4-0-0) beat Arizona 38-15. Next: vs No. 20 Oregon.
4. Auburn (4-0-0) beat North Carolina 47-21. Next: at No. 14 Louisiana State.
5. Notre Dame (4-0-0) beat Stanford 42-14. Next: at Pittsburgh.
6. Florida State (4-1-0) beat Tulane 48-28. Next: vs Georgia Southern.
7. West Virginia (5-0-0) beat Virginia Tech 22-10. Next: at East Carolina.
8. South Carolina (3-0-0) beat Appalachian State 35-9. Next: at Virginia Tech.
9. Nebraska (4-1-0) beat Nevada-Las Vegas 49-6. Next: at Kansas.
10. Oklahoma (3-1-0) beat Iowa State 35-7. Next: vs Texas at Dallas.
11. Clemson (3-1-0) did not play. Next: at Virginia.
12. Alabama (3-0-0) beat Kentucky 31-27. Next: vs Mississippi.
13. Oklahoma State (3-0-0) beat Tulsa 36-35. Next: at Colorado.
14. Louisiana State (3-2-0) lost to No. 17 Florida 19-6. Next: vs No. 4 Auburn.
15. Georgia (4-1-0) beat Mississippi 36-12. Next: vs Vanderbilt.
16. Washington (3-1-0) lost to No. 2 UCLA 24-17. Next: at Arizona State.
17. Florida (4-1-0) beat No. 14 Louisiana State 19-6. Next: vs Memphis State.
18. Wyoming (5-0-0) beat Fullerton State 35-10. Next: at San Diego State.
19. Michigan (2-2-0) beat Wisconsin 62-14. Next: vs Michigan State.
20. Oregon (4-0-0) beat San Diego State 34-13. Next: at No. 3 Southern California.

RESULTS of the Regency Palace & Ladies Bridge Club games held on Wednesday:

1. Jill White & Marty Barth
 2. Mandy Clarke & Dianne Falk
 3. Rita Casarici & Bianca Monselli
- Results of the Messilah Ladies Bridge Club games played on Saturday:
1. Jamila Akel & Sonia Banayaa
 2. Nahil Akel & Juliette Mushahwar
 3. Margaret Rob-Whitaker & Marty Barth

The Messilah Ladies Bridge Club is starting weekly games every Monday at 3.30 pm at the Messilah premises starting this afternoon.

SENNA STRUGGLES TO FINISH AMONG POINTS

Prost scores Spanish GP victory

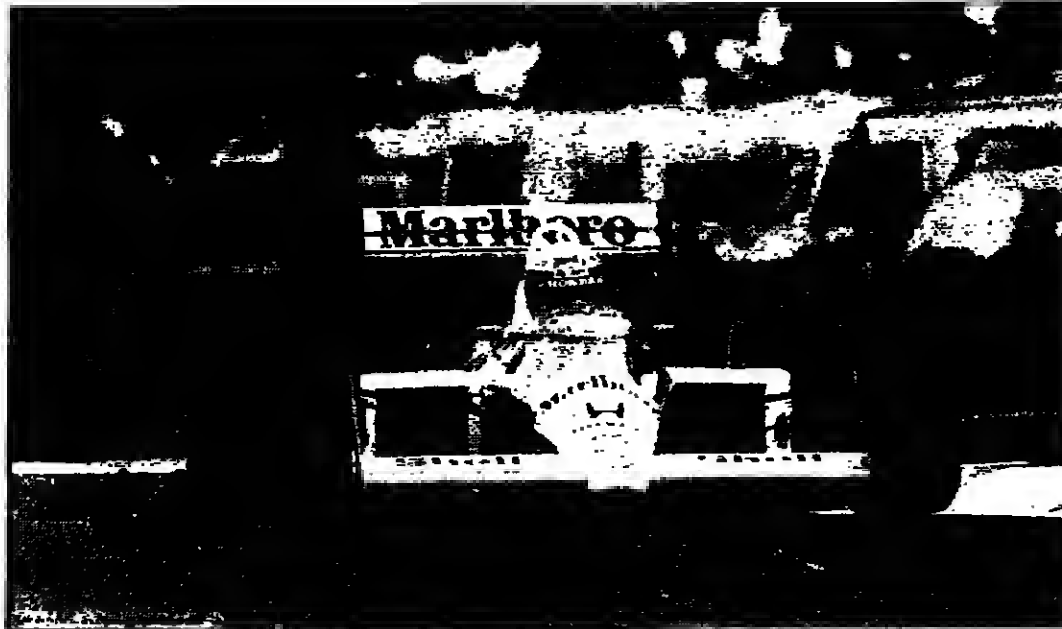
JEREZ, Spain, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Freochean Alain Prost revived his hopes of a third World Drivers' Championship in four years in emphatic style today when he drove his McLaren to victory in the Spanish Grand Prix motor race.

Prost, who needed the victory and a poor result for team-mate and rival Ayrton Senna of Brazil, got both after leading from the first corner to the chequered flag for his sixth win of the season and a record 34th career victory.

Prost's second win in succession, achieved with a perfect exhibition of smooth and controlled driving around the dusty, twisting 4.218-km Jerez circuit, leaves him five points clear of Senna in the title race with two Grands Prix to come, the Japanese on October 30 and the Australian on November 13.

Although he collected one point for victory, only three cars could be added to his championship total because drivers may count only their best 11 results at the end of the season.

The Freochean had already scored five firsts (nine points each) and six seconds (six points each) and he now has 84 points to



Prost: scored his sixth win of the season

79 for Senna. Briton Nigel Mansell, who followed Prost past pole-mao Senna off the grid and into second place, hung on to his position in his Williams, finishing comfortably ahead of Italian Alessandro Nannini, third in a Benetton.

Senna, after falling back from third to seventh at one stage, could still win the championship if he gains a record eighth win of

the season in Japan.

Italian Riccardo Patrese, fined \$10,000 on Saturday for dangerous driving during qualifying, finished fifth in the second Williams ahead of Austrian Gerhard Berger's Ferrari.

Prost was delighted with his start and his second win in a week after taking last Sunday's Portuguese Grand Prix. But he refused to speculate on his title

hopes.

He said: "I had a very good start and everything went perfectly for me although I knew I was in for a hard race when I saw Nigel (Mansell) was right behind me from the start."

"I don't know what I have to do in the championship, but I don't want to think about it. I am happy to have won the last two races and don't want to say any-

thing about the title... I haven't made any calculations."

Senna said: "As I crossed the line, my fuel computer indicated that I should be stopped at the side of the track."

Mansell said: "Alain proved what a fantastic driver he is. He drove a perfect, faultless race and I am just very pleased to finish second. It was a great race."

On a hot, but windy, afternoon, the contest was effectively decided within seconds as Prost and Mansell shot past Senna, leaving him to fight off Patrese. Italian Ivan Capelli in a March and Nannini for third place.

Thrills

As Prost and Mansell steadily pulled away, it was Capelli who provided the thrills as he battled and finally succeeded in passing Patrese and then Senna before being forced to retire with a blown engine.

Nannini, after making an early pit-stop for new tyres, also drove splendidly, charging through the field from seventh in the closing stages to finish third on a track well suited to the nimble normally-aspirated cars.

A flurry of pit-stops — the poor track surface was hard on tyres — enlivened the middle of the race, but did nothing to shake Prost's grip on the leadership as he swept to an imperious triumph.

Marsh slams Governor's XI for 106

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Opening batsman Geoff Marsh hit a fine 106 as Australia's cricketers enjoyed a feast of runs on the first day of their three-day match against a North West Frontier Province Governor's XI today.

With the first four batsmen topping the half-century mark, the touring team finished the day at 321 for three after winning the toss and electing to bat.

Apart from Marsh's second century of the tour, there were solid contributions from David Boon (65), Dean Jones (60) and Graeme Wood, who is out 51 along with Mike Veletta on 30.

Australia, trailing in the Test series 1-0, must be heartened by the performances of their out-of-form batsmen as they seek to square the series with the third Test starting on Friday at

Lahore.

The touring side were given a rousing start of 129 by Marsh, deputising for skipper Allan Border who has chosen not to play, and Boon. It was their second best stand after 138 in the opening three-day match at Lahore.

Boon, whose last four Test innings have yielded only 47 runs, and Jones, who scored a total of 44 runs in the same number of innings, gave a brilliant display of strokeplay against commonplace bowling.

The Marsh-Boon stand was broken in the afternoon session when Boon was run out after his partner had refused a single. He hit eight fours and a six in 122 deliveries during 140 minutes at the wicket.

The touring vice-captain was in more aggressive mood, blasting 15 fours and three sixes

before being stumped off Ejaz Fakhri, the local side captain.

Together with Jones, Marsh added 61 for the second wicket. Jones' score was his first half century of the tour and he hit six fours in his 121 minutes at the wicket while adding 81 for the third wicket with Wood.

He was caught at mid-wicket by Babar Zaman off left-arm spinner Farrukh Zaman as he aimed to loft the bowler towards square leg.

The first one-day international, scheduled for Gujranwala last Friday, was cancelled because of heavy flooding. Now a shadow has been cast over the remaining two one-day games.

They are to be held in Karachi and Hyderabad on October 14 and 15. But the two Southern cities have been hit by an explosion of violence.

Australia manager Colio

Egar said the touring side was concerned about the situation but Pakistani officials had promised a decision by this evening on whether to cancel the Hyderabad match.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings	
G. Marsh & D. Boon	106
D. Boon run out	65
D. Jones & B. Zaman	61
Zaman	60
G. Wood not out	51
M. Veletta not out	30
Extras (b-4 nb-15)	19
Total (for three wickets)	321
Fall of wickets:	1-129 2-198 3-271
To bat:	S. Waugh, J. Siddons, P. Taylor, P. Sleep, I. Healy, McDermott
Bowling to date:	Zakir Khan 7-0-30-4, Babar Zaman 3-0-16-0, Ejaz Fakhri 25-6-57-1, Masood Awan 20-5-82-0, Iqbal Sikander 19-2-78-0, Farrukh Zaman 16-2-54-1.

Kriek upsets McEnroe in GP

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 2. (Reuters): John McEnroe, the third seed in the \$45,000 San Francisco Grand Prix tennis tournament, was beaten yesterday by an on-form Johan Kriek.

Kriek, ranked 64, upset McEnroe, ranked 22, 6-4 3-6 6-4 in two hours and six minutes of five serve-and-volley tennis.

Kriek's brilliant serving dominated the match as he served a total of 16 aces and McEnroe failed to master an aggressive return. Kriek served nine in the second game of the match when he delivered three aces to hold at love.

The unseeded American, for-

merly a South African native, broke McEnroe in the seventh game of the first set and held on for the set 6-4, winning it with a putaway smash.

In the second set, a string of low returns gave McEnroe a break against Kriek's serve and a 4-2 lead which he maintained to hold for the set 6-3. McEnroe took the set when Kriek hit a backhand long.

Easily

In the third set, McEnroe missed an opportunity for a break in the third game as Kriek served and volleyed his way out of trouble. After that, Kriek held serve easily, delivering his 16th ace to

reach 5-4.

Kriek then blasted returns to reach double-match point in the next game and won the match on a high forehand pass.

Kriek's opponent in today's final was to be another player known for his speed around the court, American Michael Chang.

Chang, at 16 years and seven months, would be the youngest winner of a Super Series Grand Prix tournament. Aarao Kricksteio was the youngest to win a regular series event at Tel Aviv in 1983, aged 16 years and two months.

Chang defeated South African qualifier, Danie Visser, 7-5, 6-4 in the earlier semifinal.

Clark wins English Open

SOUTHPORT, England, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Howard Clark, a doubtful starter before the tournament because of a shoulder injury, won the English Open golf championship with a final 69 at Royal Birkdale today for his first victory in more than a year.

Clark, a Ryder Cup Englishman, could afford to three-putt the last green and still win by three strokes from rising young compatriot Peter Baker.

His total to the new event on one of the regular British Open venues was 279, nine under par.

"I will remember this all my life," Clark said. "I've always wanted to win a tournament at Birkdale."

Reid rides Tony Bin to victory at Longchamp

PARIS, Oct. 2. (Reuters): Italian-trained Tony Bin, second in 1987, went one better today when he won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe horse race at Longchamp.

Ridden by John Reid of Northern Ireland, Tony Bin took the lead going into the final 150 metres and held off the fast-finishing favourite, Mito, the mount of South African Michael Roberts, by a neck.

French-raised outsider Boyatino, ridden by Maurice Philipperoo, was a length away in third just ahead of another English runner, Unfuwain, the mount of Willie Carson.

Mito, unbeaten this year and considered the best middle distance performer in Europe, was slowly away in the 12 furlongs (2,400 metres) event and when the 24-strong field turned into the home straight he was still nearer last than first.

Jockey Roberts' worst fears were fulfilled when he was unable to get a clear run through beaten horses and although he made up several lengths in the final 200 metres he could not haul back Tony Bin and Reid.

Roberts said: "Unfortunately there was a little bit of scrambling in the straight and I had to sit and suffer for a while."

With four pacemakers in the field the race was run at high

speed early on and among fancied horses in the rear were the much travelled Triptych, Mito and Indian Rose, the mount of Pat Eddery, Arc-winning jockey for the last three years.

Four furlongs (800 metres) from home Emmson, one of the lesser-backed English raiders, took up the running with stable companion Unfuwain, making a forward move on firm ground he does not like.

But under driving from Carson, Unfuwain took command on the rails two furlongs (400 metres out), with French-trained Frankly Perfect looking dangerous along with Irish St Leger winner Dark Lomond and Boyatino.

Then in the centre of the track, Tony Bin, trained by Luigi Camici and the best horse to come out of Italy for many years, made his decisive move, overhauling the runners on the inside as he set sail for home.

Roberts, who feared traffic problems in such a large field, had been tracking the Italian but at a vital moment was hemmed in.

When he finally burst clear it was too late and Tony Bin, second to Trempolino last year, held on to lift the \$940,000 first prize. He was the sixth Italian-trained Arc winner, and the first for Reid.

Al Bannai outplays Al Shamlan

WALID AL BANNAI fought back after losing the first set to thrash Yousef Al Shamlan 3-6, 6-0 6-3 on Saturday and reach the final of the under-18 singles at the 3rd Tennis Open, being organised by the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

Al Bannai will meet the winner of the Tareq Al Aryan-Aiman Al Ashwak match which was being held at the Ramada Al Salam tennis courts last evening.

Al Aryan moved to the semifinals with a 6-4, 4-6, 6-1 victory over Yousef Sami Al Ibrahim after a 2-1/2 hour marathon match on Friday. The winner was later congratulated for his brilliant game by the acting undersecretary at the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Sami Al Ibrahim.

Victory

To the men's singles, top seed Khaled Ashkanani brushed aside Jalil Mohammed 6-0, 6-0. Ashkanani, partnered by Ahmad Rajab, scored a victory over Jaber Qabazard and Jalil in the doubles when the latter failed to turn up for their match.

To the ladies singles Dr Joe Candy beat Lina Aotokaswan 6-2 6-2.

The second round matches of the under-14 group and matches between various coaches start this evening.

Khaled Al Gharabally reached the semifinals of the under-12 group where he will meet Michael Khawlat while in the other match Hussain Al Ashwak



Khaled Al Gharabally

plays Fahd Al Ibrahim.

Results of matches played on Saturday:

Tareq Hadid bt Ibrahim Burahma 6-1, 6-1; Farid Fida bt Bakhter Lilekour 6-0, 6-0; Yousef Al Shamlan bt Josen Al Salem by default; Hussain Faray bt Paster Jhone 6-1, 6-1; Mubarak Abdul Redha bt Fasad Masour by default; Saleh Bushaq bt Hussain Faray 6-0, 6-0; Ibrahim George bt S. Thanton 6-2, 6-1; Ahmad Rajab bt Khaled Al Mraikhi 6-1, 6-1; Aiman Al Ashwak bt Shamlan 6-2, 6-0; Mohammad Saad bt Yousef Al Ibrahim 7-6, 6-0; S. Bibi Al Gharabally bt Anna Jerki 6-1, 6-4; Shaji John bt Fawaz Al Salem 3-6, 6-0, 6-3; Peter Mamer bt Mohammad Al Sane 6-2, 6-1; Raced Al Salem bt Qasr Fayrouz by default; Mohammad Al Ali bt Taqi Dashed 6-3, 6-3; Aiman Abdul Hamid bt Ghorio Kiorura 6-3, 6-3; Walid Saleh bt Ahmad Al Azmi 6-0, 6-2; Ahmad Al Mansour bt Mohammad Abdul Wahab 6-2, 4-6, 6-0; Hussain Gharabally bt Fawzi Bader 6-3, 6-1; Albert Babikyan bt Khaled Yaqoub 6-2, 6-2.

Red Sox lose again

NEW YORK, Oct. 2. (AP): Luis Medina homered in the eighth inning to give the Cleveland Indians a 1-0 victory over the Boston Red Sox yesterday.

The home run also shattered a no-hitter bid by Medina's friend — Red Sox pitcher Jeff Sellers.

"This was extra special because Jeff and I played against each other in high school, and we played together on some summer teams," Medina said. "This was the first time I faced him since then. I must not have hit him too well then, because I don't remember how I did against him."

The Red Sox, who clinched the American League East championship Friday night, have lost five of their last six.

Twins 10, Angels 5

In Minneapolis, the California Angels lost their 11th straight game, tying a club record set in 1974, and Steve Larkin, Tim Lander and Gene Lombardozzi hit run-scoring doubles in a four-run fifth inning.

Kirby Puckett and Larkin added two-run homers for the Twins, who reached the 90-victory plateau for the first time since 1970.

Tigers 6, Yankees 5

The Detroit Tigers were victorious at home as Chet Lemon led off the eighth inning with a tie-breaking home run.

Lemon, who homered twice Friday night as Detroit eliminated the Yankees from the American League East race, hit his 17th home run against Neil Allen, 5-3.

Results

American League	
Cleveland	1
Detroit	6
Toronto	7
Milwaukee	6
Minnesota	10
Kansas City	3
Texas	3
National League	
New York	5
Chicago	6
Atlanta	4
Los Angeles	2
Philadelphia	2
San Diego	6
Houston	3

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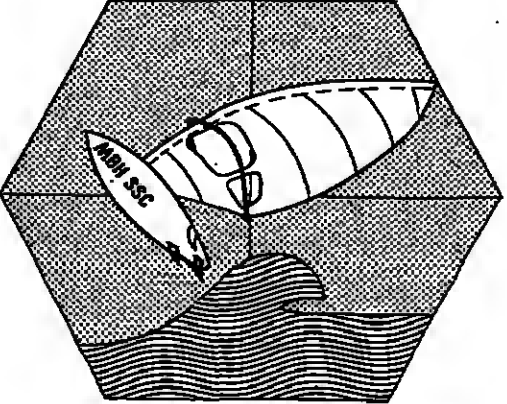
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